P & O
SCOTCH WHISKY.
10 YEARS' OLD.
The Only "SCOTCH" supplied
TO THE GREATER BRITAIN EXHIBITION,
Rs. 2-12-0, PER BOTTLE.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,816—New Series. BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1900.

ESTABLISHED 1818.
PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE,
WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1900.
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	6th Jan.
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	13th „
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	20th „
M. L. ORIENTAL	5281	J. F. Jephson	27th „
* ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd Feb.
M. L. CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	10th „
* CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	17th „
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	24th „
* PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	3rd Mar.
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	10th „
* EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	17th „
M. L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	24th „
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	31st „
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	7th April,
* SHANNON	4362	J. Chellew	14th „
M. L. CHINA	7899	T. S. Angus	21st „
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	2[illegible]th „
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	5th May.
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	12th „
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	19th „

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attntieon is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

F. C. ALLEN,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th December, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st Feb. 1900.
IMPERATOR	G. Klausberger	4,140	1st Mar. 1900.
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st April, 1900.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600.	Rs. 325.	Rs. 150.

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on or about
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	7th Jan., 1900.
GISELA	F. Mosca	4,253	7th Feb., 1900.
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	7th March, 1900.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960.	Rs. 575.
Available for 12 months	„ 1,060.	„ 625.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE tranship at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG-KONG, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
FRANZ FERDINAND	G. Nicolich	6,014	22nd Jan., 1900.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 2, Church Gate Street, Bombay, 1st Jan. 1900.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

THE S. S. "AMPHITRITE," has been FIXED to leave hence for TRIESTE DIRECT on the 15th April next. She will have one Class of accomodation only.

Passage money to TRIESTE or VENICE, single, Rs. 375,
„ „ „ Six months return, „ 575.

EMIL SCARPA,
Bombay, 3rd January, 1900. Agent.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.
VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on THURSDAY.
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	18th Jan. 1900.
CALEDONIAN	4,232	Bouessard	15th Feb. 1900.
INDUS	6,300	Chevalier	15th March, 1900.
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	12th April, 1900.
YARRA	4,255	X	10th May, 1900

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

S. S. "LAOS," 6,300 tons, Captain Flandin, to sail on or about the 10th January, 1900. For weekly departures thereafter.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.
New-Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,
GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND *via* JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents : GRINDLAY & CO.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED,

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows :—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 5th January, at 2 p.m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "PACHUMBA," 867 tons, on the 9th January, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF

S. S. "ASSYRIA" 1,495 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 4th January, calling at Kurrachee Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order, (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR, AND LAMOO.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 26th January.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "KHANDALLA," 2,040 tons, on or about 12th January.

FOR COCHIN AND RANGOON.

S. S. "GOALPARA," 2,147 tons, on or about 8th January.

FOR MANILA.

A THREE-WEEKLY direct service has been started from Calcutta to Manila, calling at Rangoon, Penang and Singapore. Rates for Passengers and Cargo, and dates of sailing can be obtained from the Undersigned.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 3rd January, 1900.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS,
BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London ; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

EASTERN EXPRESS.

SPECIALLY organized for the conveyance of packages, between India and the United Kingdom at a through rate, inclusive of all charges except Insurance and duty.

Parcels, without limit of weight, are conveyed from Bombay or Karachi to any Railway Station in the United Kingdom at

6 annas per pound.

Parcels are conveyed to the Ports of London and Liverpool only at the rate of

3 annas per pound.

For large parcels and packages Messrs. LATHAM & Co. recommend their established and well-known

HOME EXPRESS,

as being the most economical and comprehensive mode of despatch. Full particulars of which will be furnished on application.

CARGO SHIPMENTS undertaken at especially reduced rates by Mail, Regular Lines, and Cargo Steamers, particulars of Sailing of which can be obtained from Messrs. Latham & Co.'s Monthly Shipping Circular, or by application.

INDO-AMERICAN EXPRESS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. have also completed arrangements enabling them to accept Parcels for transmission to New York at the rate of

Rs. 2 per cubic foot,

Inclusive of Freight and all Shipping Charges.

Particulars as to free delivery charges in New York and parcel rates to any interior town of the United States to be had on application.

LATHAM & Co.,
Shipping and Forwarding Agents.

BOMBAY : Esplanade Road.
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Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by
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THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued, allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

REDUCED RATES to Railway Family employes, Parties and Missionaries.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.

HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured.

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CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.

SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied, CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

DEPOSITS received. Rate of interest on application.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.

Hand book of information free on application.

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FRESH ARRIVALS.

PRIME YORK HAMS,

WILTSHIRE BACON,
From C. and T. HARRIS.

STILTON, CHEDDAR, GORGONZOLA and other CHEESES.

CRYSTALLIZED & DRIED FRUITS.
CHRISTMAS CAKES.
SWEETS AND CHOCOLATES
TINNED PROVISIONS.

Regular Consignments of the above and all Seasonable Goods regularly received by every Through Mail.

QUALITY AND CONDITION GUARANTEED.
NEW CATALOGUES NOW READY.

TREACHER & CO., LIMITED,

BOMBAY, BYCULLA, POONA.

McDOWELL & CO.,

MADRAS.

HAVANA CIGARS.

TO MEET THE DEMAND WHICH WE BELIEVE EXISTS IN INDIA FOR

REAL HAVANA CIGARS.

We have arranged for the regular importation of the undermentioned BRANDS made of the

FINEST
HAVANA TOBACCO

Procurable, and are now in a position to offer them at the following Prices :—

"MULETA" Principes
4 ⅞ inches. Rs. 19-12 per 100 in 50's.
Rs. 20-8 per 100 in 25's.

"COMPOSIA" Especiales
4 ⅜ inches. Rs. 17-1 per 100 in 50's

"COMPOSIA" Imperatrix
4 3-8 inches. Rs. 22-1 per 100 in 25's.

"MULETA" Graciosos
3¾ inches. Rs. 13-4 per 100 in 50's.
Rs. 14-2 per 100 in 25's.

ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET FREE ON APPLICATION.

McDOWELL & CO., LD.

MADRAS AND LONDON.

GENUINE

HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER.

(LEADING BRAND SINCE 1842.)

HAS been imported into THIS COUNTRY CONTINUALLY and in increasing quantities for the last 40 years. This fact proves that its excellent qualities are well understood and appreciated by the public. Imitations have reached this market and inferior brands have been put forward, bearing labels closely imitating the Genuine Huschke 3 Star Label. All such imitations will be prosecuted, and the public are requested to beware of them, and to see that the label on each bottle and box bears the 3 Stars in Blue, and on the back of the Label, as seen through the bottle, the inscription :

"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

RUSTOMJEE MANECKJEE & CO.,

18, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.
SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

WATCHES

THAT HAVE given great satisfaction during use as reliable TIMEKEEPERS for many years. Watches that can be relied on always.

Every watch before it leaves our hands is well tested and regulated and no watch leaves our establishment unless it can fulfil all the conditions of our written guarantee which accompanies it.

METAL

	Rs.	a.
MARCKS' Crystal face Nickel Silver Keyless Military Popular Watch	15	8
MARCKS' Crystal face Nickel Silver Keyless Campaign Watch	23	0
MARCKS' Crystal face Nickel Silver Keyless Cmpaign Watch PERFECTION	35	0
MARCKS' Crystal face Nickel Silver Keyless Railway Watch, Stout and strong	35	0
MARCKS' Crystal face Nickel Silver Keyless Railway Watch, very superior	55	0
MARCKS' Military Model Unparalled Wrist Watch with Strap, the Best Wrist Watch ever manufactured	32	0
MARCKS' Crystal face Keyless Calendar Watch	24	0
MARCKS' Crystal face Keyless Automatic or Handless Watch	45	0

SILVER

	Rs.	a.
MARCK'S Military Lever Pocket Watch in Silver Crystal face case	45	0
MARCK'S Military Lever Pocket Watch in Silver Hunting case	50	0
MARCK'S Military Lever Pocket Watch in Silver Half-Hunting case	55	0
MARCK'S Campaign Watch in Silver Crystal face case, very high quality of Campaign Watch	60	0
MARCK'S Campaign Watch in Silver Hunting case	65	0
MARCK'S Compaign Watch in Silver Half-Hunting case	70	0
MARCK'S Coventry Watch, an English-made Watch, sterling Silver Crystal face	70	0
MARCK'S Coventry Watch, an English made Watch, sterling Silver Hunting case.	75	0
MARCK'S Coventry Watch, an English-made Watch, sterling Silver Half-hunting case	80	0
MARCK'S Fine Railway Watch in Silver case, very handsome Watch and of high quality, English-made	95	0
MARCKS' English Standard Watch in Sterling Silver Crystal face case	100	0
MARCKS' English Standard Watch in Sterling Silver Hunting case	115	0
MARCKS' English Standard Watch in Sterling Silver Half Hunting case	125	0

WITH EACH WATCH we SUPPLY a CASE, SPARE GLASS, MAIN SPRING, and a WRITTEN GUARANTEE for TWO YEARS.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

PRACTICAL WATCH MAKERS.
BOMBAY AND POONA.

FOR SALE.

LIFE BELTS & LIFE BUOYS

ACCORDING TO BOARD OF TRADE REQUIREMENTS.

APPLY TO

SHALEBHOY TYEBJEE AND SONS,

SHIP CHANDLERS, 18 AND 20, DALAL STREET, FORT.

FAVRE LEUBA & Co.,

SWISS WATCH MANUFACTURERS.

ALL REQUIRING an accurate, elegant and durable TIMEKEEPER should select a WATCH of our MANUFACTURE and bearing our NAME and TRADE MARK.

They are obtainable through any dealer in India or Burma, or direct from our head office for the East.

22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY.

We won in open competition at the CALCUTTA EXHIBITION, 1883-84, the only GOLD MEDAL which was awarded for the actual manufacturing of SWISS WATCHES.

FAVRE LEUBA AND COMPANY,

HEAD OFFICE.
22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY.
ESTABLISHED IN INDIA OVER 40 YEARS

NEW AGENTS WANTED.

XMAS BAZAAR OPENED
AT
BOMBAY PERFUMERY MART,

WHERE YOU WILL FIND THOUSANDS OF ARTICLES SUITABLE FOR

XMAS, BIRTHDAY AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

LATEST NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON JUST UNPACKED.

VARIETIES OF PRESENTATION CASES.
NICKEL PERFUME FOUNTS.
NICKEL PUFF BOXES.
NICKEL SOAP BOXES.
RHINE VIOLET.
VIOLET DE PARME.
BABY PRESENTATION CASES.
CHOICEST PERFUMES.
CHOICEST SOAPS.
MULHEN'S LAVENDER,
THE KING OF ALL LAVENDERS.

AN INSPECTION EARNESTLY SOLICITED.
AT 93, MEDOWS STREET, FORT.

HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSENGERS AND TOURISTS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. receive and store Surplus Baggage and re-ship the same.

Articles of Indian Art manufacture received and packed securely for transit.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. being directly represented at all the principal European, American, and Australian ports by thoroughly reliable Agents, all packages entrusted to their care will be expeditiously and economically cleared and despatched on arrival at destination.

If desired, passengers can be met on arrival by Messrs. LATHAM & Co.'s Agents.

BOMBAY, Esplanade Road.
KARACHI, Bunder Road.

SARDAR OOMER JUMALL VUYANI.

BYCULLA COMMISSION STABLE.
ARAB and PERSIAN-CHARGERS, HUNTERS POLO RACERS AND OTHERS,

ON COMMISSION SALE.

CARRIAGES AND HORSES FOR SALE AND ON HIRE.

1st Class English Carriages with single and Double Horses on hire [illegible], month and year.

SHOW ROOM, LOCKSLEY HALL,
BELLASIS ROAD, BYCULLA.
Purchasers should apply to the MANAGER.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

MUNICIPALITY OF BOMBAY.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay up to 2 p.m., on FRIDAY, the 12th day of January, 1900, for the SUPPLY of ARTICLES required for the feed of animals &c., in the Victoria Gardens as mentioned below from 1st March, 1900, to 28th February, 1901.

(a) Supply of beef and mutton.
(b) Supply of miscellaneous bazar articles.

2. Forms of Tenders, Contract, &c., can be obtained on payment of Re. 1 for each of the supplies above referred to from the Superintendent, Victoria Gardens, who will on application give any further information that may be required.

3. Each tender must be accompanied by a deposit of Rs. (100), one hundred, and the successful Tenderer in each case shall have to deposit a further sum of Rs. (100) one hundred to make up the amount of whole deposit being 10 per cent. of the Contract amount.

4. The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order of the Municipal Commissioner,

C. D. MAHALAXMIWALA,
Superintendent of Municipal Gardens.
Victoria Gardens Office, Bombay, 3rd January, 1900.

WINES, &c.,

COCKBURN'S BLACK SEAL PORT.
LONDON CLUB, PORT.
KENNETH MACKENZIE & Co's., PORT.
LONDON CLUB SHERRY.
KENNETH MACKENZIE & Co's., SHERRIES.

These Wines are confidently recomended.

OF ALL DEALERS OR OF

ALDRIDGE, SALMON & Co., LD.,
BOMBAY.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are invited for the right of SKINING DEAD ANIMALS at Coorla Flats from 1st April, 1900, for alternative periods of one, three and five years.

The Tenders will be received by the Municipal Commissioner upto 2 p.m., on FRIDAY, the 12th January, 1900.

Each Tender must be accompanied by a deposit of Rs.(1,000) one thousand which will be forfeited in case of withdrawal of Tender or of refusal to sign the Contract.

The successful Tenderer will have to pay the full stamp duty on his Contract and the charges for executing it and such further sum as with the Rs. 1,000 deposited with the Tender will make up 10 per cent. of the amount of Tender, the security deposit, if paid, in cash, will bear no interest.

Printed forms of Tenders can be obtained on payment of one rupee for each form of Tender at the office of the Executive Health Officer.

Tenderers must distinctly understand that the terms as regards deposit, &c., stipulated in the Tender form, will not be allowed to be altered by them either before or after the acceptance of the Tender on the grounds of former precedents or for any other reason.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Any further information on the subject, can be obtained by applying to the Health Officer.

W. L. HARVEY,
Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay.
Municipal Offices, Bombay, 3rd January, 1900.

COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PORT OF RANGOON.

THE COMMISSIONERS for the Port of Rangoon require the services of a Royal Naval Officer (on active service,) of the rank of Lieutenant of eight years' seniority at least, or of an Officer of the Royal Indian Marine of similar standing to undertake the duties of Deputy Conservator of the Port.

A thorough practical knowledge of Hydrographical surveying is an absolutely indispensable requirement in the Officer holding the appointment, as he will have personally to carry out periodical surveys of the Rangoon river and its approaches with the help of a Native Assistant to whom he will be expected to impart instruction in any part of the latter's duties in which he may find his training defective.

The principal duties of the Officer appointed will, however, be the control of the Pilots and Harbour Masters, the buoying and marking of the river, the berthing of the shipping, etc., etc.—in other words, the Marine Executive control of the Port, under the Commissioners. In these duties he will have the help of the Assistant Conservator, a certificated and experienced Master in the Mercantile Marine.

The salary of the appointment is Rs. 800 a month, rising in four years to Rs. 1,000 a month, by annual increments of Rs. 50 for approved service. This rate of pay is inclusive of house and all other allowances, except exchange compensation allowance. The Officer appointed will be required to live as near the river as possible.

Applications stating particulars of service, experience and age should be addressed to the undersigned, so as to reach Rangoon on or before the 1st May, 1900.

A. B. GATHERER,
Chairman, Port Commissioners,
23rd December, 1899. 1864. 4t. alt.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India.

Petition for Probate of the last Will and Testament of DOONGERSI NARSI, late of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, deceased.

VAHU MOTIVAHOO alias NANABAI, widow of the late DOONGERSI NARSI of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, residing in house No 150-152 at New Hanuman Lane, outside the Fort of Bombay, and GOPAL DAYAL, also of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, residing in House No……… at Old Hanuman Lane, outside the Fort of Bombay, the Executrix and Executor named in the will of the abovenamed deceased, DOONGERSI NARSI……………………………………Petitioners.

ALL PERSONS claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed deceased, are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings, if they think fit, before the Grant of Probate.

Witness, SIR LAWRENCE H. JENKINS, KNIGHT, Chief Justice at Bombay, aforesaid, the 15th day of December, in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and Ninety-nine, and in the Sixty-third year of our Reign.

The Seal of the High Court at Bombay.

L. N. BANAJI,
Registrar.

D. B. BINNING.
The 15th day of December, 1899.
Messrs. CRAWFORD, BROWN & Co.,
Petitioner's Attorneys.

KING, KING & Co.,
BOMBAY.
KING, HAMILTON & Co.,
CALCUTTA.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand, Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

FIXED DEPOSITS received, subject to six and twelve months' notice of withdrawal at rates which can be ascertained on application.

REMITTANCES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. Demand and Telegraphic, made at the current rates of Exchange, and addresses in connection with the latter registered Free of Charge through Messrs. HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, Cornhill, London.

LONDON:
HENRY S. KING & CO.

GLIMPSES OF THE EAST.

40 LOVELY PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS, comprising the most picturesque and interesting places of INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, and the STRAITS with full descriptive matter. Size of views, 9 1-2 in. by 7 1-2 in.

Rs. 3 only, the complete set. Paper Cover.

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NOTICES.

NOTICE.

INDIA CORPORATION, LIMITED.

IT having been stated in BOMBAY and elsewhere, that the above was connected with the firm of RALPH DOUSE & SONS, LIMITED, I beg to state that there is not, nor has there ever been, any connection whatsoever between the INDIA CORPORATION and the Firm of RALPH DOUSE & SONS.

I also have to state, that since its promotion, Mr. T RALPH DOUSE has had NO CONNECTION with the India Corporation.

H. P. KING, Secretary,
India Corporation, L'd.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 31st December, 1899, Adolphe Alexandre Guillaume Prier de Saone and Eugene Seguer, ceased to be PARTNERS in the FIRM of PRIER DE SAONE & Co.

The Firm will be CARRIED on by Heinrich Stauber and Guillaume Adolphe Prier de Saone, who are now the SOLE PROPRIETORS thereof.

(Signed) PRIER DE SAONE & Co.

THE DECCAN BANKING AND AGENCY CORPORATION, LIMITED.

(ESTABLISHED 1896.)

CAPITAL Rs. 10,00,000.

HEAD OFFICE:—5, Patel Street, Fort, Bombay.

BRANCH OFFICE:—173, Broadway, Madras.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened and Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum allowed on daily balances from Rs. 200 to Rs. 2,500.

FIXED DEPOSITS received at the following rates —

For 1 Year, 6 per cent. per annum.
„ 9 Months, 5½ „ „
„ 6 „ 5 „ „
„ 3 „ 4 „ „

The Bank offers special facilities and advice to Constituents as to the purchase and sale of Government Papers, Port Trust and Municipal Bonds, and Shares of good and sound Companies.

Every description of Agency business undertaken. Reports, Rates, etc., obtainable on application to

V. N. PARULEKER,
Manager.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of THREE PER CENT. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

J. BEGBIE,
Secretary and Treasurer.

VICTORIA JUBILEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, BOMBAY.

NEW CLASSES at the Institute OPEN on the 4TH JANUARY, 1900. Students are particularly advised to join at the commencement of the Session.

Programme giving full particulars can be obtained from the Principal on payment of 4 annas.

ENGINEERING CLASSES.—

The course of instruction lasts for three years and embraces the following.—

MAKING, WORKING, DRAWINGS of various parts of Machines.

MAKING PATTERNS from the working Drawings. Instruction in SMITHY WORK and on all TOOLS and MACHINES used in ENGINEERING WORKSHOPS, together with general FITTING up and FINISHING of Machines.

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING.—

The course of instruction lasts for three years and includes:—

PRACTICAL WORK on the Machines in actual use in Cotton.

SPINNING and WEAVING FACTORIES.

FITTING together and ERECTING of the several Machines, WORKING THEM, making necessary changes, and practice in the selection and mixing of different Cottons.

Preparation for and Weaving of Plain and Fancy cloths.

In conjunction with both the departments there are.—

(1.) Separate classes for Machine Drawing, free-hand and to scale.

(2.) Lectures on STEAM and the STEAM ENGINE.

(3.) Lectures on MACHANICS.

(4.) Lectures on SOUND LIGHT HEAT ELECTRICITY and MAGNETISM as specially applicable to students attending either of the two practical departments.

Students who complete the course successfully under the conditions laid down receive the designation.

L. M. E. (LICENTIATE of MECHANICAL ENGINEERING).

L. T. M. (LICENTIATE of TEXTILE MANUFACTURE.)

Subject certificates, FULL TECHNOLOGICAL CERTIFICATES, SCHOLARSHIP CERTIFICATES with their MONEY VALUE, and a GOLD MEDAL are awarded each year.

There is a Saturday afternoon Class for LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERING.

DECCAN BANKING AND AGENCY CORPORATION, LIMITED.

SHORT PERIOD FIXED DEPOSITS.

THE Bank receives Short Period Deposits during busy season at Bombay at the following Rates of Interest:—

At 5 1-2 per cent. per annum for 4 months.
„ 5 „ „ „ 3 „
„ 4 „ „ „ 2 „

V. N. PARULEKER,
Manager."

TO LOVERS OF ART.

THE establishment in the "First City in India" of a high class and fashionable Art Gallery, fitted up in the most approved and artistic style, where artists and their patrons can at all times meet to their mutual advantage, and to the advancement of Art itself, has been our desire for some years past; but the difficulties in the way of its fulfilment have been so great that the scheme has had to be abandoned—for the time being at least. We are persuaded that were we able to secure the influential support of those in high places and the help of lovers of Art in the Presidency, the Gallery would be a *fait accompli*. Another object of ours in wishing to form an Art Gallery is that we may be able to educate the native mind, and, by furnishing the people with an opportunity of viewing and comparing European work with the crude and absurd productions they have been accustomed to, cultivate a refined and more artistic taste in them. Surely this worthy desire ought to have the encouragement it deserves from all true lovers of Art!

In submitting our new Catalogue to the public, which can be obtained on application, we desire to place this object prominently before them, at the same time thanking them for the patronage and support they have already given us. It has enabled us to place the concern in some degree in as favoured a position as some of the leading Picture Dealers' establishments in London or Paris; so far, at least, as India is concerned.

A new feature, as will be seen in the present issue of the Catalogue, is that we have included all the different lines of business which we undertake in one and the same cover, whereas in former years they were printed in separate handbooks, leaflets, &c., necessitating a deal of needless repetition.

It has, therefore, been our endeavour to spare the public the tediousness of the task of looking through a number of separate prints for what they require, by compiling the present issue in as concise and handy a form as possible, adding to it an Index—a feature that was not possible to introduce in the former erratic sort of publications.

Of course, we are sensible of many defects in this our first venture; the principal one being the impossibility to embody in a trade catalogue a complete list of our stock of Engravings. We would, therefore, request those seeking any known engraving not enumerated herein to communicate with us.

We have, further, the pleasure of notifying our *clientele* of our removal into more spacious and conspicuous premises, the address of which we would ask them to kindly take particular note.

Hoping for a continuance of the esteemed patronage and support of our customers, and the public in general.

D. B. DINSHAW & CO.,
BOMBAY FINE ART GALLERY,
ESPLANADE ROAD,
Opposite Bombay Club.

BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	Rs. 500	all	10 p. c. 1 bon.	1 262½
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1,200
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,160
Commercial Bank of India	10,000 15,000	100	100 75	6 p.c.	90
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£6	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£29 1-2
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£67 1
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12 1-2	8 pr. ct.	

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Half yearly.	Cash Rate.
Ahmedabad Advantage	70	1,000	000	Nil	
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all	..	205
Anglo-Indian	1,315	..	0	Nil	22
Assur Veerjee Mill Ltd.	In all 2000 Shares of which 1002 have been allotted.	Rs. 500 each	Fully paid up	Rs. 25 12 1-2	nom.
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.		1,000	1,000	60	
Ballary S. & W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	971	60	all	9 per ct.	1,000
Berar Manfg Co., Ld	2,750	550,000	200	12 1-3	135
Bombay United	90	1,000	1,000	Nil	350
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	90	500	500	dvd Rs 2	425
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld	500	1,000	1,000	..	90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 5	300
Bombay Woollen Manfg. Co. Ltd	650	1,000	1,000	10 per ct.	1,000
Central India	1,000	500	500	dvd Rs, 5	1,660
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 3	435
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs. 2	550
Coimbatore S. and W	6,000	100	100	9 pr ct.	1
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	2	525
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	Rs. 10	390
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs. 2	360
Currimbhoy Mills	80	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 6	600
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvd Rs 3	290
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co., Ld.	1400	250	all	dvd Rs 2	255
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	150
Empress	2,100	500	500	Nil	250
Framjee Petit	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	280
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	Nil	290
Hingunghat Mills	700	500	500	4	670
Howard and Bulloughs	1,500	500	500	5	500
Hope Mills	500	1,000	1,000	3	450
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	3	1,220xd
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Nil	160
Indian Manfg	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd 3	4.0
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld	700	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 50	500
James Greaves	1,100	500	500	25	450
Jaffer Alli	600	500	500	dvd Rs 2	220
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	1,800	250	250	Nil	125
Jewraj Balloo	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	375
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld	8,430	1,050	1,000	2	300
Khandeish	7,500	1,500	1,000	dvd Rs 6	630
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	1,000	250	250	6	500xd
Khatao Makunjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd R. 25	400
Leopold	3,500	100	103	dvd Rs. 5	150
Lord Reay Mfg	415	1,000	1,000	30	200
Lakmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	615
Madras United	356	1,000	1,000	Rs 10	2,600
Mahaluxmee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	75
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	pr ct	...
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	1,000	vd 60	1,700
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co. Ld., Amraoti	300	100	115	dvd Rs 15	...
Mazagon	5,000	250	...	dvd Rs.	45
Morarji Goculdass	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 15	1,320
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dvd Rs 1	200
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil	...
National	2500	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 2	120
Oriental	5,725	625	25	dvd Nil	10
Presidency Mills, Co. (Ld).	742	1,	1,000	dvd Rs 5	575
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	540
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	700
Saraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	500
Sassoon	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 2.	500
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 75	1,725
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	325
Southern India	1,000	500	500	Nil	100
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dv Rs 12	255
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs. 15	225
Standard Mills Co.	1,000	500	500	1	130
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	660
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvd R 22½	525
Sassoon and Alliance	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs 2	295
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co	500	1,000	1,000	50	
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 20	270
Venishunker Lukhmishunker Mill Co. Ld.	900	500	500	dvd Rs 10	410xd
Victoria Mills	550	1,000	1,000	Nil	2
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 5	225
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld.	400	50	all	dvd R-	25
Wadia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	81	...

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Divid.	Cash Rate.
G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	...	£100	...	...	...
B. B. & C. I. R. Co. New £12 Shares	—	£10	...	...	...
Ahmedabad Prantej Ry.	500	500	..	4 pr. ct.	607½
Tapti Valley Ry. Co.	500	500	...	4 pr. ct.	480

PRESS COMPANIES.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Yearly.	Cash Rate.
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	125	1,300xd
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	410
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs. 80	725
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	13
Bhownugger City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton	1,000	125	125	Nil.	75
Breuls Cawnpore Press Co., Ld	500	200	200	dvd R 30	180xd
Broach City Press Co., Ld	600	200	200	dv Rs 20	200xd
Colaba	500	1,880	1,880	dvd Rs 15	315
East India	350	1,000	1,000	125	1,325
English Press and Manfg	400	200	...	dvd Rs 9	60
Fort	150	8,300	500	dvd Rs 20	650
French	300	500	50	dvd Rs 40	510
Harvey and Sabapathy	450	450	500	dvd Rs 3	340xd
Hingoli Press Co., Ld	700	100	100	Rs 17	133xd
Khangaum	210	450	450	dvd Rs 80	475xd
Mahuva Press Co., Ld	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	22
Mahmadpura Cotton G. and P. Co. Ld	300	500	500	53	55
Mercantile	600	125	125	dvd Rs 5	60
Mofussil Co	125	400	400	dvd Rs 3	392½
Munnar M.	000	250	all	dvd Rs 20	180
New Berar	00	500	500	dvd Rs 50	490
New Indian	00	125	125	dv Rs 12½	142½
Prince of Wales	100	500	00	20	165
Sabapathy (Bellary)	500	500	70	30	310
Sassoon	300	500	500	20	310xd
Sind and Punjab Co.	100	1,000	1,000	125	585
Sind	400	2,000	750	20	1,800
Sorab Woollen Mills	200	250	250	Nil.	325
Surat City Press Co., Ld.	37	200	all	1	75
Volkart	...	000	—	Rs 30	95

THE London correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian," understands that the War Office have adopted a scheme the effect of which should be to release many soldiers from routine work and to make them available for active service. At present the scheme will only affect the Royal Garrison Artillery, but should the experiment prove successful there is no doubt that it will be applied to the other branches of the army. The routine work in question consists mainly of the duties of clerks, messengers, library assistants, boats' crews, and mess servants and it is proposed that these duties shall in future be carried out by pensioned and discharged soldiers and by reservists. The rates of pay will vary from 18s. 6d. to 23s. per week, in addition to various privileges in the way of uniform and medical attendance.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 35m. Sun sets, 5h. 36m. High water, 3-1m., 3-46a. Low water, 9-27m., 9-13a.

Arrival of Lord Sandhurst from Calcutta, Byculla Railway station, 10-30 a.m.

Meet Bombay Hunt, Rifle Butts.

Annual Inspection of G. I. P. Railway Volunteers, Thana.

Telegraph Recreation Club, Annual Ball, Telegraph Quarters.

POLO.—There will be no polo this afternoon.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Singapore, China and Japan, per extra s. s. Chusan, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 12 noon, on Monday, the 8th instant.

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT TO LORD AND LADY SANDHURST.—The Hon. Mr. Bomonjee Dinshaw Petit and Mrs. Petit have issued invitations to have the honour of meeting Lord and Lady Sandhurst at an evening entertainment to be given at Chateau Petit, Warden Road, on Friday, the 12th instant, at 9 p.m.

POLICE MAGISTRATES.—Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, who had gone to Agra, to enjoy his Christmas holidays, returned to Bombay on Tuesday, and resumed his work this morning at the Esplanade Police Court. Mr. J. W. S. Dracup, acting Third Presidency Magistrate, also resumed charge.

MILL HAND STRIKE.—On Tuesday afternoon, all the operatives of the weaving department, numbering 251, of the Alexandria Mill, on Ghorupdeo Road, went on strike, in consequence of a reduction of two annas in every rupee from their wages, from the 1st instant. The notice of reduction was given on the 26th December. Out of the 251 operatives, 133 were persuaded to resume work, but the remainder discussed the situation in the mill up to 5 p.m., when they all left the mill in an orderly manner. The employes of the Sassoon Alliance Silk Mill, at Victoria Road, the Queen Mill and the Jain Mills, have also struck work, for the same reason.

BURNT TO DEATH.—An inquiry was held yesterday, at Narayan Dhuroo Street, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, on the body of Gometi, a Hindu girl, aged about thirteen years. The deceased was the wife of a carpenter and resided in the above street. On Sunday morning last the girl was engaged in the kitchen, cooking food for her husband, when the end of her *saree* caught fire from a naked kerosine oil lamp, which was burning close by. She screamed out, but before her mother-in-law went to her rescue and extinguished the fire, the girl was extensively burnt from the hips downwards. A native medical practitioner was summoned and he treated the deceased until her death, which occurred on Tuesday last. A verdict of accidental death from burns was returned by the jury.

REPORTED THEFT OF ORNAMENTS &C.—Dhunbai, a widow, who resides on the second floor of a house at Nishanpada, has reported to the police the theft of a bundle, containing gold and silver ornaments and a small amount in currency notes and cash, in all property collectively valued at Rs. 1,017. On Thursday last complainant packed up a tin box with wearing apparel and the bundle containing the above property, and she locked the box and went to the musjid for evening prayers, giving the keys of the box as well as of the room to a neighbour named Rahimbai. The following morning Dhunbai left Bombay for Ahmedabad, which is her native place and on the same evening, when nearing Baroda she opened her box to take out a warm jacket and discovered the bundle missing. She returned to Bombay and after making her own inquiries reported the matter to the police. The matter is being investigated by the police.

THE "DUFTAR ASHKARA" NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.—Mr. Merwanji F. Murzban, the enterprising proprietor of the *Duftar Ashkara* Press, has presented as New Year's gifts to the subscribers to his influential paper, the *Rast Goftar*, a valuable wall calendar for the current year and an illustrated pamphlet descriptive of scenes, sights, and implements of war. The calendar is beautifully printed in gold and colours; is replete with information of every-day use to the merchant and the man of business; and gives in the middle of it an excellent likeness of Mr. J. N. Tata, founder of the Teaching University of Scientific Research in India. The second present, which is printed on very thick paper, gives coloured and other illustrations of scenes and sights and implements of war, with portraits of Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley, Lord Roberts, and of officers and soldiers of different British Regiments, &c., in connection with the South African War. The proprietor has incurred a great deal of expenditure on the gifts to his subscribers who include all classes of the native community. The *Rast* which is making a rapid stride of progress in the Gujarati literary world, under the able guidance of Mr. K. N. Kabraji, is an acknowledged authority on Parsee social and educational problems.

RUN OVER AND KILLED BY A GHARRY.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the morgue, regarding the death of Ramset Hurset, aged about 28 years. The deceased was employed in the *Bombay Gazette* Press and lived at Piquet Road. On Tuesday afternoon he and many other Hindus started in a funeral procession from Cavel for the Hindu burning-ground. The procession was accompanied by music and when it arrived at Kolbhat Street, a shigram with rubber tyres and drawn by one horse came from the opposite direction. The gharry was being driven at a moderate pace and was on the proper side, but the processionists were all over the road. One of the shafts of the shigram struck the deceased on his chest and he was knocked down and one of the front wheels passed over both his thighs. Before the hind wheel could pass over him, the horse was pulled up and Ramset was extricated. He was unconscious and speechless. He was placed in a gharry and conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where, on arrival, the doctor examined him and pronounced him to be dead. His body was then taken to the morgue. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death in accordance with the above facts.

PENALTY FOR NEGLIGENT DRIVING.—Before Mr. S. B. Spencer, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Joseph Mahomed, a Mahomedan merchant, was charged by Inspector Barker, with driving his victoria in a rash and negligent manner, and thereby causing damage to the carriage, belonging to Mr. Tottersal, Mr. S. B. Kapadia, pleader, defended the accused. From the evidence of the complainant, it appears that, on Monday evening, he and his wife were returning home in their victoria from the Methodist Church, at Grant Road. On the carriage nearing New Churney Road, the accused came driving his victoria at a rapid speed from the direction of the Grant Road Railway Bridge and ran into the complainant's carriage breaking the shafts, lamp and wheels, and otherwise causing damage to the carriage to the extent of Rs. 80. Mr. Kapadia, on behalf of the accused, denied the charge, stating that it was merely an accident. The Magistrate, in convicting the accused, remarked that he (accused) did not seem to have taken the precaution, which drivers ought to take, while passing through a street, where carriages were likely to come out from another street. The Court sentenced accused to pay a fine of Rs. 25 and referred complainant to a civil court to recover the damages done to his gharry.

A THIEVISH FRIEND.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Vishnoo Vamon Modak, a young Hindu, was charged by Inspector Barker, before Mr. S. B. Spencer with stealing a silver watch and chain, valued at Rs. 23, the property of Anandrao Gopinath Turkhad, a clerk employed in the Bombay Small Causes Court. The accused was defended by Mr. Velinker, pleader. The complainant and accused had been on friendly terms for the last ten years. About 9 o'clock on the night of the 30th December, accused visited the complainant at the latter's place, at Sadashive Lane, near Kandawady, and remained there for some time. Both the friends had some conversation, in the course of which, accused asked complainant for a drink of water. The latter went into an inner room to get some water, leaving his friend alone in the dewankhana. After drinking the water accused left, complainant accompanying him as far as the corner of the street. On returning to his place complainant found his watch and chain, which he had left on a table in the dewankhana, missing. The suspicion pointed to the accused and complainant gave information to the police. The accused's place was searched by the police and the watch and chain were recovered from some ferns near the house. Mr. Velinker, on behalf of the accused, pleaded guilty to the charge and asked that accused might be let off with a fine, as this was his first offence. The magistrate sentenced the accused to one day's imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 30, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

M. FLEURY-RAVARIN gave a lecture on Dec. 14 at the rooms of the Society for the Study of Colonial and Naval Questions. He urged that the defence of the colonies should again be placed under the direction of the Ministry of Marine. As regards the defence of the home coasts, he considered that the true solution of the question was to be found in the transformation of the great military ports into strong naval stations, under the sole control of the Ministry of Marine.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

LORD CURZON AND SIR BHALCHANDRA KRISHNA.

IN reviewing the New Year's Honours list, the *Indu Prakash* says:—As usual, the New Honours' list is meagre and not quite satisfactory, at least so far as the Bombay Presidency is concerned. There have been many important omissions, although there are a few redeeming features. Nearer home, we notice with unmingled satisfaction and pleasure, the honour of Knighthood conferred on Dr. Bhalchandra Khrishna Bhatavadeker, a distinguished and capable citizen of Bombay. The news was first conveyed to him last evening (31st December) by his Excellency the Viceroy through his Private Secretary, in a telegram couched in very graceful terms. It runs as follows:—"The Viceroy desires me to say that he has received the assent of the Queen to the bestowal upon you, in the New Year's list, of the distinction of Knighthood; he trusts that it may be as agreeable to you to receive this recognition of good service as it has been pleasing to him to recommend it." Besides being a gifted statesman, Lord Curzon seems to be a quick appreciator of merit. The fact that he was the first to wire to Dr. Balchandra speaks of the noble qualities of heart His Excellency possesses, and adds a great charm to the gift to Dr. Balchandra. The very rare honour of Knighthood which comes to our Presidency after about a quarter of a century, is rightly conferred on the right man in every way. The distinction is as merited as it is meritorious. Ever since his withdrawal from the State service of Baroda—a distinct loss to the State—and his settling in Bombay, Dr. Balchandra Krishna has been a successful man in every line he chose to work in. He has been daily working with wonderful energy from morning till evening for the good of the city, and there is no public institution in Bombay with which he is not connected. One does not really know how, in the midst of his lucrative practice, he finds time to attend to every one of those institutions he invariably attends to. Gifted with an excellent physique, and extraordinary sweetness of temper—which is all his own,—the popular Dr. Bhalchandra is ever to be seen here, there, and everywhere. His long, useful and active career,—whether at the Local Municipal Corporation, as President of that body or as Chairman of the Standing Committee or at the University Senate or at the Grant Medical College Society or at any other useful institution of which there are so many in Bombay and to every one of which Dr. Bhalchandra has never failed to give his ready assistance,—had already singled him out as a distinguished and prominent citizen of Bombay. As a member of the Local Legislative Council, he strove hard to bring the grievances of the people, and particularly of his Profession, to the notice of Government with a view to their removal. But his services to the city of Bombay in connection with plague since its first outbreak, have been simply admirable! He was among the first who started the Hindu Fever Hospital where he is working till now. He has been striving hard by example and precept to make inoculation as a plague preventive measure, popular among the masses, and his labours in this connection are very well-known. In honouring such a many-sided citizen as Dr. Bhalchandra, Lord Curzon has honoured the whole of Bombay. Dr. Bhalchandra is the first Maharastra Hindu on this side of India to get this rare distinction. May he be spared long, as Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, in full health and vigour, to be still more and more useful to his people.

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON WEDNESDAY THE 3RD OF JANUARY, 1900.

1. The barometric readings are corrected to Calicut standard, reduced to the same temperature Mo and also to the sea level and corrected to the constant gravity at Lat. 45.

2. The 2nd column under the head 'Wind' gives the average motion of the air in miles per hour during the past 24 hours, and is obtained by dividing the total number of miles of wind registered by an anemometer during the previous 24 hours by 24.

3. The temperatures given in the table are of the air in the shade or in a small shade with open sides and a thatched or straw roof. The maximum (max.) and minimum (min.) temperatures are the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 8 a.m.

4. The humidity is given as a percentage expressing rates of the actual amount of moisture in the air to the amount required to saturate it.

STATIONS.	Pressure, 8 A.M.	WIND. Direction.	WIND. Rate per hour.	TEMPERATURE IN SHADE. Maximum of past 24 hours.	TEMPERATURE IN SHADE. Minimum of past 24 hours.	Humidity, 8 A.M.	RAINFALL. Past 24 hours.	RAINFALL. Since 1st Nov. to date.	RAINFALL. Variation, 1st Nov. to date.
Lahore	30·063	Calm	2	69·6	36·2	66	...	0·00	−0·54
Sirsa	30·065	NW	6	72·2	38·5	75	...	0·00	−0·41
Delhi	30·013	NW	3	75·2	41·1	40	...	0·00	−0·13
Agra	30·021	NW	2	80·0	52·9	58	..	0·00	−0·27
Cawnpore	29·975	Calm	0	80·2	50·0	80	...	0·00	..
Allahabad	29·965	WSW	2	81·7	51·4	81	...	0·00	−0·51
Jhansi	30·001	WSW	2	85·2	60·1	55	...	0·00	−0·28
Jacobabad	30·048	Calm	0	73·1	42·5	52	...	0·00	−0·26
Karachi	30·025	ENE	4	77·9	53·7	31	...	0·18	−0·10
Jeypore	30·015	NNW	3	78·2	54·0	33	...	0·01	−0·34
Ajmere	30·0 8	Calm	3	74·4	53·8	43	...	0·00	−0·35
Deesa	30·007	ENE	11	83·0	56·5	25	...	0·00	−0·22
Ahmedabad	29·973	NE	3	86·2	57·2	3	...	0·00	...
Bhuj	30·025	N	4	79·3	53·0	58	...	0·00	−0·10
Jamnagar	30·010	ENE	7	79·5	52·3	45	...	0·01	...
Rajkot	29·997	N	4	83·9	49·0	30	...	0·00	−0·40
Bhownagar Para	29·934	NW	4	86·0	54·7	24	...	0·01	..
Veraval	29·951	NE	4	85·1	61·3	32	...	0·00	..
Neemuch	30·01	N	6	78·0	51·6	35	...	0·01	−0·47
Indore	30·037	Calm	2	?	49·1	45	...	0·00	−0·09
Saugor	29·997	S	5	83·	57·1	51	...	0·00	−1·28
Jubbulpore	29·9 1	SSE	2	82·9	49·4	60	...	0·00	−0·98
Hoshangabad	30·024	NE	1	84·7	51·3	76	...	0·00	−1·28
Khandwa	30·013	Calm	3	88·7	54·1	35	...	0·00	−0·94
Raipur	29·965	SE	2	89·8	60·7	41	...	0·00	−0·87
Nagpur	29·9 3	NNW	4	92·2	57·2	3	...	0·00	−1·65
Amraoti	29·989	ESE	4	91·2	63·8	36	...	0·00	−1·45
Akola	30·007	S	4	92·9	5 1	46	...	0·00	−1·85
Surat	29·954	N	4	90·1	58·5	49	...	0·00	−0·19
Malegaon	30·032	WNW	3	91·9	54·5	32	...	0·01	−1·06
Bombay	29·919	ENE	10	84·4	69·4	61	...	0·00	−0·87
Poona	30·005	SW	5	90·	55·9	4	...	0·00	−1·60
Ahmednagar	30·022	NW	3	88·9	54·4	35	...	0·00	...
Aurangabad	...	Calm	6	90·3	56·2	31	...	0·00	...
Sholapur	29·985	E	7	91·2	60·1	27	...	0·00	−1·79
Ratnagiri	29·905	Calm	3	87·4	64·9	65	...	0·00	−0·64
Belgaum	29·937	ESE	8	85·8	59·4	24	...	0·00	−2·47
Goa	29·920	SE	6	84·5	66·8	86	...	0·00	...
Karwar	29·91	ENE	4	87·8	59·6	73	...	0·08	−2·69
Mangalore	29·904	ESE	2	90·8	65·1	59	...	0·03	−3·54
Calicut	29·892	E E	7	86·2	64·0	78	...	0·11	−6·29
Cochin	29·888	NNE	3	87·8	68·7	83	...	1·90	−6·78
Bangalore	29·99	ENE	11	84·3	54·4	50	...	0·24	−3·93
Secunderabad	29·987	Calm	3	90·6	60·6	52	...	0·00	−2·03
Masulipatam	29·971	Calm	3	84·0	61·2	95	...	0·00	−8·13
Bellary	29·963	Calm	4	91·7	58·1	29	...	0·15	−2·12
Cuddapah	29·952	SW	6	94·1	61·4	80	...	0·45	−5·41
Madras	29·954	N	2	82·5	64·5	78	...	1·79	−16·80
Coimbatore	29·975	NE	2	88·4	60·6	95	...	0·37	−1·62
Trichinopoly	29·968	Calm	3	87·5	61·9	79	...	1·75	−6·23
Negapatam	29·936	NNE	12	81·5	68·9	84	...	11·88	−16·67
Colombo	29·878	NE	7	89·0	68·5	82	...	12·83	−7·30
Aden	29·908	NE	20	79·3	74·4	81	...	0·00	−0·74

In column "Wind, rate per hour," L., Light, M., Moderate, F., Fresh, S., Strong, H., Heavy.

SUMMARY.

There has been a brisk rise of pressure at Agra and a slight rise or fall elsewhere. Readings are highest in Rajputana and lowest in the extreme south. Gradients are moderate to slight.

Winds are very variable in direction and the force has been generally light.

The temperature both maximum and minimum, is above the mean of the season in many places. The highest temperature in the shade was 94 ° at Cuddapah, and the lowest 36 ° at Lahore.

Humidity changes are unimportant and the skies are partially clouded in several places.

There has been no rain at any of the reporting stations.

Pressure is abnormally low in all districts, the variations being largest in all districts lying to the north of Latitude 20°. Fine weather with passing clouds prevails generally. The weather however shows a slight tendency towards becoming unsettled.

G. L. TOWERS,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

(BY TELEGRAPH).

SIMLA, JAN. 3.

Tuesday's meteorological observations show the pressure has risen briskly to rapidly in the Punjab and West Rajputana and has fallen slightly to briskly in the Peninsula. The changes in other parts of the country have been small. Light snow has again fallen in North Kashmir, and Sibsagar has received a light fall of rain. Temperature has fallen very rapidly in Baluchistan and Sind, and rapidly in the Punjab. The mean temperature is in defect in Burma, West Coast and South India, and is normal in Sind, Mysore and Madras Coast. It is from five to eight degrees above the normal in Orissa, Chota Nagpur, North-Western and Central Provices, Berar, Central India and Rajputana. Bushire in Persian Gulf has received light shower of rain and the weather is feebly unsettled in Persia.

AT Thorne, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, a colony of 300 Dutch people, who have been settled there two years and were imported for the local peta works, have become naturalised. Mr. George Dunoton, the county councillor for the division, states that the majority of them sympathise with England in the present South African campaign. The colony has subscribed to the relief funds for our soldiers' families.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE 59th annual meeting was held on Tuesday, December 12.

Sir Thomas Sutherland, M. P., who presided, referred, at the outset, to the great loss which the company had sustained by the recent sudden death of Mr. F. D. Barnes, who was one of the managing directors. Those who knew Mr. Bernes best would agree that his was a personality of no common kind. The company had lost in the deceased gentleman a valuable servant, and the board mourned a friend and colleague whom they held in the highest esteem. Turning to the report, the chairman said that the total revenue for the year ended September 30 last amounted to £3,029,000, which was by far the largest income that the company had received in any previous single year of its existence. This showed that the company had shared, to at least a reasonable extent in the prosperity of the country. The revenue had been of a progressive character for a number of years. In 1894 it aggregated £2,382,000, so that the average rate of increase during the past five years had been £130,000 per annum. These figures testified to the fact that the company had not been standing still. Of course, the expenditure had risen largely during the same period, but this was only what would be expected. In the shipping trade, as in all others, a large volume of business, and consequently more work, had to be done in order to maintain the same level of profit as hitherto. The gross revenue for the twelve months covered by the accounts exhibited a gain of £142,000 as compared with the amount in the previous year. The passage money, about £1,102,000, showed an increase of £7,100. With regard to this apparently modest improvement in the passenger traffic, he wished to remind them that it followed an exuberant development in that direction, for during the previous three years the growth in the passenger income represented fully £150,000. Moreover, the comparison of the present with the preceding year was so far unfavourable to the former in that during 1898 the company had a separate service between Marseilles and Alexandria, which added considerably to the total of the passenger receipts, although, unfortunately, it actually resulted in a loss. He could say conscientiously that they had every reason to be satisfied with the position which the company held in the shipping trade. That position was not maintained, by any means, without difficulty, because competition, especially foreign competition was always steadily on the increase. The board were constantly endeavouring to effect some improvement in the service, so as to enable the company to hold their position, and when the new steamship Persia was delivered, in the course of next year, the Bombay service would be served almost exclusively by vessels of 8,000 tons. The freight income for the year under review amounted to £1,585,000, an increase of £125,000 as compared with that of the previous year. In the outward trade from London the company had a deficit of £20,000 in connexion with specie freight alone. This was entirely due to the absence of silver shipments to the Far East. The Australian trade had not been quite so satisfactory as in the previous year, and even then it was not much to boast about. This was the more curious because Australia had recovered marvellously in itself, notwithstanding the bad seasons and the great losses of stock that the colonies had suffered from. The public and private economies which had been practised during the last four or five years in Australia, combined with the advance in the price of wool, and also with the great output of mineral wealth, had materially improved the position there. Unfortunately, this better state of things had been accompanied by a deficiency in the wool clip, and likewise a diminution in the export of frozen meat, and these were the two causes which had affected the company's Australian trade. Turning to China and Japan, he found that their business compared favourably with that of 1898. On the one hand, the commoner description of exports from China and Japan were not so plentiful as in the previous year, but the falling off in that respect was amply compensated by exceptional exports in the shape of silk. The business with India, both in exports and imports, was fairly satisfactory, except as regarded jute, in which there was a considerable deficiency. On the whole, the trade had been particularly good and showed a marvellous recovery after the famine and other troubles which the country had passed through. He was, however, bound to say that there was a very heavy cloud over the Indian trade, owing to famine having again occurred in the western parts of the Empire. He feared that the result would be greatly to impede the exports from Bombay during the coming year, and affect the company's returns most unfavourably. As to the expenditure, he said that interest principally centred round the coal bill. The expenditure for coal during the year under review came to £752,000, an increase of £116,000 over the amount in the previous twelve months. For the financial year on which they had just entered there would be a further growth in this item, and he should be very thankful if the company's additional coal expenditure, instead of coming to £116,000, did not amount to £300,000 beyond what it was two years ago. Whether the rates of freight and passage money and the volume of traffic would be such as to compensate for the heavy charge of navigation he did not wish to prophesy, although it was most devoutly to be hoped that such would be the case. The sum set aside for depreciation was £335,000, or 21,000 more than the normal allowance. This extra amount was placed to depreciation account merely in pursuance of the custom adopted on previous occasions when the company had had a specially good account—namely, that of providing against a possible rainy day. One other reason for augmenting the amount of the depreciation or sinking fund was to be found in the high cost of shipbuilding to-day as compared with two or three years ago. The rise in wages and in the cost of materials was such that ships were 50 per cent. dearer now than they were four years ago. In the accounts the value of the fleet stood at £10 18s. 3d. per registered ton, or, allowing for the available reserves, at £6 15s. 3d. Having regard to the original heavy cost of the ships and to the present value of shipping property, he had no hesitation in saying that that figure was an extremely moderate one. As the outcome of negotiations with the Italian Government, passengers would in future be able to book to and from London and Bombay or any other place in the East *via* Brindisi, thus saving about two days as compared with the Marseilles route, although the rates would remain the same. He believed that this arrangement would prove a considerable boon to those numerous passengers who made hurried visits from India to this country. Whatever sacrifice the Italian Government and railways might have made in connexion with this concession, the sacrifice made by this company had been considerably greater. Should the arrangement meet the convenience of the public, he had no doubt that in the long run the company would be the gainer. It had been decided to abandon the service which for twenty-five years had been maintained with the port of Venice. He felt a sentimental regret in the matter, because he arranged the first contract that was made with the Italian Government, in 1872, in regard to the service, which, it was hoped, might help to restore Venice to a measure of the commercial importance which belonged to the city in the Middle Ages. The company was abandoning the service because it no longer paid, but he wished to say that during its continuance the best relations had been maintained with the Italian Government. Referring to the Transvaal war, he observed that eight of the company's vessels had been employed in conveying about 11,000 officers and men to South Africa. It was impossible for the company to offer their mail steamships for the work in question, as nowadays the mail service had to be carried on whether we were at war or not. At the time of the Crimean war the postal service was under the direction of the Lords of the Admiralty, and whenever a mail steamship was wanted their lordships simply said "Blow the mail service," or whatever the nautical equivalent might have been, and took the vessel. As a matter of fact, part of the mail service was suspended during the Crimean war in order that this company's steamships might be used for other purposes. Nowadays that state of things was impossible, but he was pleased that the company had been able to spare a certain number of their vessels from their ordinary commercial work to take part in the great expedition to South Africa. He felt bound to add, in reference to certain criticisms which had appeared from time to time in the newspapers on the subject, that he thought the maner in which not only this company's portion of it, but the whole of the trasport service, had been carried out reflected the greatest credit on the mercantile marine of this country. (Hear, hear.) As to the report, he considered that the good points were distinctly in the ascendant, and he trusted that they might continue to be so for a long time. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

The Earl of Leven and Melville seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Sir Robert G. W. Herbert, dividends for the half-year ended September 30 last of 2 1-2 per cent. on the preferred stock and of 6 1-2 per cent. on the deferred stock together with a bonus on the latter of 2 per cent. were declared.

IT is stated from Berlin that the German experiments with wireless telegraphy are being carried on with quite as much energy and secrecy as the British. A well-known savant, Professor Staby, is in charge of them, and he is being directly inspired by the Emperor, who has been present at certain of the later experiments, and who is said to have declared that he believed the professor's discoveries are as remarkable as those of the English naval scientist, Capt. H. P. Jackson. The professor is equally confident, and he stated in a recent lecture that it would soon be found that France and Russia, as well as Germany, are not a whit behind England in this particular.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE B I S N Co's s s Goa, 1,217 tons, Captain R W Gimblett, sailed yesterday, for Busreh, in ballast.

THE B I S N Co's s s Ellora, 1,494 tons, Captain Jas Wilson, arrived in harbour yesterday, from Moulmein, 13th December via Rangoon and Colombo with a general cargo and one deck passenger.

THE B I S N Co's s s Pachumba, 511 tons, Captain J Skinner, sailed yesterday, for Karachi via Kathiawar coast ports, with a general cargo and Mr L Peck, Miss Snowden and 165 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's s s Assyria, 939 tons, Captain J MacLean, will sail to-day for the Persian Gulf via Karachi, with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr and Mrs Barnett, Mrs Jones and infant, Mr Abdoola Abdool Currim, Mr Alli, Mr L E Keslow, and 65 deck.

VESSELS IN THE HARBOUR.—JAN. 3.

Vessels.	Tons.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Sutlej		Weston			P & O Co
Unity	930	Hansen			Bombay Co
Booldana	2143	Croft			M M & Co
Bengo	162				Portuguese Gun Boat
Nizam	2041	Kliot	Calcutta		F Morrison & Co
H M S Lapwing		Lambert			Royal Navy
P Stewart		Tindall	Wet Basin		I G T S
H M S Pomone		Simons	Dock		Royal Navy
Cragoswald	2085	Pesan			A Montechoff
Pemba	986	Martyr			M M & Co
Arethusa sp.	1198	Wilson			W & A G & Co
Simla	1093	Bamber			M M & Co
H Bolckow	639	Baker			B & P S N Co
Okara	3433	Fry			M M & Co
Chilka	1477	Hutchison			M M & Co
Muttra	2965	McIntyre			M M & Co
Warora	2504	Alexander			M M & Co
Onipenta	3120	Walkeys			M M & Co
Kerbela	1468	Manwaring			M M & Co
Gulf of Trinidad	1494	Duncanson			B & P S N Co
Dalhousie		Warden			R I M S
Assyria	939	Maclean			M M & Co
Caledonia	1716	Richardson			Bombay Co
Clyde	2103	Denny			P & O S N Co
Rajah	3534	Leftwich			T M & Co
Ellora	1494	Wilson			M M & Co

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—JANUARY 3.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shed.	Vessels.	Tons.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
B	Clan Macdonald	3113	Harrison	Marseilles	8-1	F M & Co
C	Nasari	912	Raffin	Jedda	4-1	B & P S N Co
P	Natrang	2831	Bullock	Durban	6-1	M M & Co
	Transport.					
F	Ujina	3426	Kilpatrick	Durban		M M & Co
G	Ileafaee	73	Malony	Colombo		V Errahim
H & J	Lindula	2180	Steuart	Durban	6-1	M M & Co
K	Urlana	3120	Plommer	Durban		M M & Co
M	Pekin	2134	Hayward	Durban		P & O Co
N	Fazilka	2498	Goss	Durban	6-1	M M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Tons.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Mahanadi	547	Bulroo	G Port	4-1	Sphrd & Co
Kaveri	553	Ahmed	Bhownagar	4-1	Do
Ponani	552	Fakeer	Bhawnager	6-1	Do

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shed.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	R Rubattino	3044	Saporite	Genoa	5-1	F Baldovino
2	Oriental	3085	Jephson	Aden	6-1	P & O Co
4	Ancona	1888	Coats	China		H C Joosub
6	Chusan	2852	Street	China	4-1	P & O Co
9	Trentham Hall	2662	Black	Karachi	10-1	K N & Co
10	Den of Airlie	2275	Jarvis	Hamburg	9-1	Bombay Co
12	Egypt	4179	Loughorne	London	12-1	P & O Co
14	Dwarka	759	Livingstone	Durban	4-1	M M & Co
16	Afghan	1342	[illegible]	Mauritius		H C Joosub

*Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·3s.

The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba meantime, or 8h. 8m. 44·30 of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVAL.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
3	Ellora s.	Wilson	Moulmein, Dec 13

DEPARTURES.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
3	Pachumba s	Skinner	Karachi.
	Bengal s	Borcham	China, &c.
	Wagner s	Gibson	London, &c.
	Goa s	Gimblett	Busreh.

The following vessels obtained their port clearances yesterday:—

Steamer Dwarka, Livingstone, for Cape Town.
„ R Rubattino, Saporite, for Genoa, &c.
„ Assyria, MacLean, for Persian Gulf.

The following vessels entered for loading yesterday:—

Steamer Afghan, for Zanzibar, &c.
„ Rajah, for Calcutta, Rangoon, &c.

DAILY EXPORTS.—JANUARY 3.

FOR LIVERPOOL.

Trentham Hall s—150 bales wool, Moorarjee Rutonsey; 150 bales hemp, Kiddle Ruve and Co; 108 bales wool, J Khetsey and Co; 31 bales cotton carpets, W & A Graham and Co; 58 bales wool, Rustomjee Mancherjee Koota; 42 bales cotton waste, 19 bales gunny cutting waste, 6 bales canvas cutting waste, 11 bales cutting waste, and 5 bales buffalo pickers waste, Tyabjee and Co; 70 bales wool, C Nanjee; 51 bales wool, Jadowjee Curra; 78 bales wool, S Jan Mahomed; 80 bales wool, P A Dosul; 4 bales goat skins, D Merwanjee and Co; 104 bales wool, Doongersee Nagjee; 3190 bales Royse Amerchand.

FOR LONDON.

Egypt s—4000 cwt bone meal, Mooljee Jamal; 500 cwt buffalo horns, Bundally Esmall.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Clan Macdonald s—16,876 cwt teelseed and 6,027 cwt linseed, Ralli Brothers.

Trentham Hall s—17,995 cwt teelseed, Ralli Brothers.

FOR GENOA.

Clan Macdonald s—300 bales cotton, A Blascheck & Co; 200 bales cotton, Glade & Co.

FOR HAMBURG.

Den of Airlie s—6400 laceeed, Latham & Co.

FOR HONGKONG.

Ancona s—150 bales twist, M Cooverjee; 100 bales twist, R S Woonwalia and Co; 1,000 bales twist, Yan Shun and Co; 150 bales twist, Framjee Sons and Co; 200 bales twist, Silas E S ssoon; 100 bales twist, H Mooltanchand; 30 bales twist, Talati and Co; 189 bales twist, C Ebrahim and Co; 200 bales twist, A C A Lyed; 150 bales twist, Sorabjee Dossabhoy and Co; 250 bales twist 4 1-2 cwt peacock, E Noordin and Co; 150 tons old iron, H C Joosub; 50 bales cotton, Framji Hormusjee and Co; 300 bales twist, David Sassoon and Co; 1000 bales twist, Sassoon J David and Co; 200 bales twist, E D Sassoon and Co; 150 bales twist, Cursetjee Bomanjee and Co; 500 bales twist C. Ebrahim and Co. 100 bales cotton M H E Ellias; 500 cwt onions, C M Buesanis.

FOR SHANGHAI.

Ancona s—1000 bales twist, 500 bales cotton E D Sassoon and Co; 199 bales cotton, V S H Reddy and Co; 15 bales twist, E Noordin and Co; 140 cwt Khismis F Cassumbhoy Nathobhoy; 100 bales twist, C Bamonjee and Co.

FOR KOBE.

Chusan s—800 bales cotton, Sassoon J David and Co; 1400 bales cotton, The Motoni B Kaisha; 300 bale cotton, V S H Reddy and Co; 350 bales cotton, W & A Graham and Co; 100 bales cotton, Glazebrook Tejpal and Co; 628 bales cotton, Latham Abercrombie and Co; 1100 bales cotton, Tata and Co; 600 bales cotton, Dinshaw D Curranee and Co; 170 bales cotton, Gaddus and Co; 1300 bales cotton C Ebrahim, and Co; 150 bales cotton, David Sassoon and Co; 400 bales cotton Volkar Brothers; 199 bales cotton, R S N Talati and Co; 200 bles cotton, Glazebrook Tijpal and Co; 100 bales cotton, David Sassoon and Co.

Ancona s—500 bales cotton, Tata and Co, 1000 bales cotton, Gaddum and Co; 400 bales cotton R S N Talati and Co.

FOR YOKOHAMA.

Chusan s—100 bales cotton Volkart Brothers; 10 bales cotton Tata and Co.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR W. G. WILSON, COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 4th January, 1900.

1. There will be 10-inch R M L Gun drill in the Town Hall Compound and at the Nesbit Road Head-quarters at 8-45 p.m., to-day.

By Order,
A. J. PEILE, Captain, R. A.,
Adjutant, B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. E. FERRERS NICHOLSON, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 4th January, 1900.

1. The Regiment will parade for a Field Day, on Saturday the 6th instant. Train leaves Victoria Terminus at 3-30 p.m. (Bombay time).

(2) Ten rounds of blank ammunition per man will be issued on Parade. Pouches to be inspected on falling in.

(3) Attendance on this parade to count 3 Points towards the Commanding Officer's Prizes.

(4) Special carriages will be attached to the train leaving Victoria Terminus at 3-30. p. m. (Bombay time). Railway fares will be paid for those joining this train at Victoria Terminus, Musjid, Mazagon, Byculla, Parel, and Dadur stations. Members travelling from other stations by the B. B. and C. I. Railway will pay their own fares which will be refunded.

(5) The Battalion will return by the train leaving Coorla at 6-30 p.m. (Bombay time).

2. There will be a meeting of the Council of the Bombay Volunteer (Light Horse and Rifles) Rifle Association at Head-Quarters at 6 p.m., to-day, Thursday, the 4th instant.

By Order,
P. H. ROGERS, Capt.,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

A COMMITTEE of enquiry assembled a short time ago at Chelama Station, on the Southern Mahratta Railway, to enquire into the causes of the accident to a mixed mail train which occurred near Chelama Station on the 1st ultimo. The members came to the conclusion that the accident was primarily due to an axle having broken and that the injury to the rolling stock was aggravated by the excessive speed which the driver had maintained. They recommended the reduction of the driver and hoped it would be a warning. The committee were of opinion that the Chief Guard did his duty and that no blame could be attached to him.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

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SILVER GILT WATCHES.

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Rs. 25.
Complete in case with spare glass, main spring and a guarantee for 2 years.

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FORT, BOMBAY.

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INDIAN LAND REVENUE,
FOR PRINCIPLE AND SOUND POLICY,
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TODARMAL.
Price, Re. 1, Postage, half-anna.
To be had at the "Bombay Gazette," Bombay.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 3.

LONDON telegrams to hand to-day show Consols as having advanced 1-16, the quotation now being 99 3-8 French Rentes are 1-4 per cent. higher, while 3 1-2 per cent. Sterling Loan and Rupee Paper have advanced to 110 and 63 15-16 respectively. Discount on short London Bills is quoted at 5 1-2 per cent.; and according to latest advices, the amount paid into the Bank of England was £500,000.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed irregular, with Surats quiet and Arrivals steady. The Manchester Market was quiet but steady. The total day's sales were 10,000 bales; sales on Speculation and for Export 500 bales; and the total day's Imports 35,000 bales. Middling Americans in New York and Liverpool now stand at 7 3-4 and 4 9-16 respectively, the rise in both cases being 1·16. Surats too have gained 1-16 all round. Futures for April and July are quoted in New York at 7·49 and 7·54 respectively, and in Liverpool as under :—

Jan.	Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mch.	Apr.-May.	May-June.
4·22	4·20	4·16	4·11	4·9

Telegrams from New York give the receipts of Cotton at United States Ports at 56,000, Exports to Great Britain 20,000, and to France and Continent 57,000. We give below the figures for the seasons 1897-98 to 1899-1900:—

	1899-1900	1898-99	1897-1898
4 day's receipts of Cotton at U. S. Ports	56,000	158,000	166,000
Total receipts do. 1st Sept.	3,935,000	5,922,000	5,672,000
4 day's Exports to G. B.	20,000	54,000	22,000
Do since 1st Sept.	1,004,000	2,237,000	1,793,000
4 day's do to France and Continent	57,000	59,000	72,000
Do since 1st Sept.	1,571,000	2,005,000	2,017,000
Price of Mid.-American in Liverpool	4 9-16	3 3-32	3 1-4
Do in New York	7 3-16	5 7-8	5 15-16

From the following statement it will be seen that the receipts of Cotton into Bombay owing to the early crop were (up to a few days ago) ahead of the arrivals for the corresponding period last year, but the imports are now falling off and the deficiency will be more marked as the Season advances :—

	1899. Bales.	1898. Bales.
Khandeish	45,303	70,268
Barsee and Nuggur	10,210	9,410
Berar	53,1[illegible]7	167,012
Total Oomras	108,743	246,690
Hinganghat	1,999	2,838
Dhollera	29,914	39,216
Broach	23,089	2,383
Compta & Dharwar	13,201	11,392
Westerns	600	5,571
Bengals	146,627	43,230
Sind	7,537	317
Persian	1,523	65
American	3,-66	733
Egyptian	3,546	94
Other Sorts	1,191	3
Total	341,872	352,532

The local Cotton Market closes firm. The only business reported is in Comptas, of which 600 bales have been taken for mill consumption at about Rs. 200 per candy. Quotations for forward deliveries are good : M. G. Broach, Rs. 220, March 25th; Bengals, Fully Good, Rs. 185, January 25th; Bhownugger, Good Rs. 206, May delivery.

WHEAT AND SEEDS.—Rates in Bombay remain unchanged, the market is quiet and small business is reported. The Home quotations for seeds are :—

Rapeseed, Yellow Cawnpore 39 3-4
" Brown " 37 1-4

Wheat	1,184	cwts.
Linseed	552	"
Rapeseed	46	"
Gingelly Seed	7,999	"
Groundnuts	62	"
Castor Seed	1,421	"
Rice	852	"

MONEY.—The receipts into Bombay on Monday and Tuesday were as follows :—

The Bank of Bombay return for the week ending on Saturday, shows the following changes :—

Public Deposits at the Head Office	Inc.	Rs.	15,69,652
" " Branches	Inc.	"	53,895
Other "	Inc.	"	48,79,353
Government Securities	Dec.	"	3,02,887
Other authorised "	Dec.	"	3,04,085
Loans	Inc.	"	32,99,538
Bills Discounted and purchased	Dec.	"	30,777
Balances with other Banks	Dec.	"	53,718
Cash	Inc.	"	35,48,346

The following statement shows the amount of Government Promissory Notes enfaced for London at Calcutta between the 15th and 21st December 1899 :—

3 1-2 per cents	2,000
3 "	12,400
Add, Balance against London as per last published statement	21,15,93,634
" Amount enfaced at Madras and Bombay	....
" " of Loan certificates transferred to London Book Debt	....
	21,16,08,034
Deduct Amount written off in the London Registers	10,32 500
Grand Total	21,05,75,534

The above figures exclude consideration of the following couponed paper of which the transfers between London and India do not pass through the books of the Public Debt office :—

4 1-2 of 1879 under discharge	500
3 1-2 of 1854-55	1,23,23,200
	1,23,23,700

EXCHANGE.—The closing rates are :—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s.	4 3-32d.	per Rupee
" " Telegraphic	1s.	4 1-16d.	"
" " 3 months' sight	1s.	4 5-32d.	"
Credit "	1s.	4 7-16d.	"
Francs "		172 3 4	"

FREIGHTS.—The market continues firm, and a small business with Liverpool and other ports is reported at rates varying from 16s. 6d. to 18s.

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—The market opened firm at 95 3-4, but the business put through was very limited. The rate declined 1-8 per cent. and closed at 95 5-8 and 95 3-4 for Cash and forward transactions.

SHARES.—Bank of Bombay shares are to day quoted at Rs. 1,262 1-2; Maneckjee Petit at Rs. 1,700 and Tapty Valley Railway shares at Rs. 480.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, JAN. 2.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed :—Irregular.
Surats :—quiet.
Good Bhownugger :—3 27-32.
The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	99 3-8
3 per cent. Rentes	99 1-4
3 ½ per cent. Sterling Loan	110
3 ½ per cent. Rupee Papers	63 15-16
Bar Silver	27 1-8

The sum of about £500,000 has been paid into the Bank of England.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, JAN. 2.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Alpine left here day before yesterday evening.

LONDON, JAN. 2.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macfadyen arrived here this morning.

HONGKONG, JAN. 3.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Tientsin, (Extra) arrived here from Bombay this afternoon.

COLOMBO, JAN. 3.

Mail steamer from Djibouti arrived.
Mail steamer Coromandel from China arrived.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bombay for the week ending 29th December, as compared with the statement of 22nd December :—

LIABILITIES.	Dec. 22. Rs.	Dec. 29. Rs.
Capital	100,00,000	100,00,000
Reserve Fund	70,00,000	70,00,000
Special Reserve Fund	......	......
Public Deposits at Head Office	45,91,318	61,65,970
Do. do. at Branches	29 90,951	30,49,848
Other Deposits	311,06,435	359,85,788
Post Bills	6,358	6,358
Credits, undrawn	17,53,252	14,52,957
Rs.	574,53,316	636,60,921
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	73,22,647	28 19,760
Other authorised Securities	33,14,140	30,10,055
Credits, on Govt and other authorised Securities	62,10,535	62,61,233
Loans do. do. do.	170,84,152	203,82,690
Bills Discounted and purchased	129 32 273	129,01,496
Dead Stock	4,24,037	4,22,956
Stamps and Stationery	22,891	22,862
Bullion	......	......
Balances with other Banks	1,88,473	1,34,755
Cash	99,54,168	135,02,514
Rs.	574,53,316	636,60,921

LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

SUBSCRIBERS to the WAR TELEGRAM EXTRAS, Rs. 2, can have the same delivered as they arrive.

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DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

MACLACHLAN—December 25, at Mian Mir, the wife of Lieutenant T R Maclachlan, 40th Pathans, of a son.

ROBINSON—December 26, at Lahore, the wife of S M Robinson, Government Advocate, Punjab, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SIDNEY SMITH—HURLEY—December 26, at St James's Church, Delhi, by the Very Rev H W Griffiths, M A, Archdeacon of Lahore, Walter Sidney Smith, partner, Bertie Smith and Co. of Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi, to Annie Isabel, eldest daughter of Frank Hurley, Esq., Municipal Secretary, Delhi.

DEATH.

ALGER—December 22, at Naini Tal, Ellen Maria, the beloved wife of Charles Alger, aged 48 years.

FREESE—December 26, at Kas Ganj, R M R, Cecilia, wife of Charles Freese, aged 63 years.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

⁂ ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1900.

THE meeting of the National Congress in Lucknow was so similar to previous meetings, and the subjects discussed were so nearly identical that the critic, friendly or hostile, had very little to say that has not been said already. Mr. R. C. Dutt made an able address setting forth the leading tenets of the Congress. He told his colleagues that the Indian Civil Service ably and fairly represents the official side of Indian questions. He had been for the best years of his life a member of that Service, and had seen that the Service is manned by able and hard-working officers, actuated by honesty of purpose, so that taking it with all its faults and shortcomings, there is not a finer body of administrators in the world. He acknowledges that he himself obtained fair and even handsome treatment from his superiors, and loyal co-operation from his immediate colleagues. That is high testimony from the President of the Congress, and though it leads up to the suggestion that representing the official side of questions, the Civil Service cannot represent the people's side, the candour and cordiality, with which it was given, deserves the fullest recognition. Naturally when the people's side of Imperial questions cannot be represented by even fair-minded and honest administrators, the Congress becomes a political necessity; *s'il n'existait pas, il fallait l'inventer*. Mr. Dutt holds that the body over which he presided, is of inestimable value to Government, and he is satisfied that the Government appreciate the advantage which they derive from its many counsels of perfection. It is true its advice is not always followed; its demands cannot always be conceded. But Mr. Dutt honestly believes that it is helping the cause of good government in India by its deliberations year after year which let the Government know in what direction the wishes and aspirations of the people tend. In his view the future is with the Congress and looking round at "the progress of nations all over the British Empire, in every part of the world, I for one," said the eloquent President, "feel confident that we are destined to move onward as a portion of that great Empire, and that we, too, shall secure some measure of progress and self-government under the Imperial rule of England." Having thus stated the creed of the Congress, Mr. Dutt, premising that he would abstain from criticism, proceeded to make practical suggestions for the consideration of Government. He gave the first place to the famine that was now looming over so large a part of India. He had been himself employed with his English colleagues of the Civil Service in famine relief operations or in providing against impending famines in Bengal in 1874, in the great famine in Southern India in 1876, and again in 1896. From his experience on those occasions, and judging from the measures now adopted, he is confident that no effort and no expenditure will be spared by the Government to save life and relieve distress. He appealed to the National Congress to strengthen the hands of the Administration and to give what help and co-operation they could.

It is when he comes to the alleged causes of famine that we are afraid we must part company from Mr. Dutt. It is no doubt desirable to take measures to improve the condition of the agricultural population of India—and such measures have been taken with a considerable degree of success—but it is altogether beside the question to attribute the famines that occur from time to time to the pressure of the land assessment. Famines are due to the failure of the rains, which in the affected areas deprive the cultivators of their crops and the labourers of their employment. If the assessment were to be wholly abolished, the failure of the harvest would leave millions of people without food. It is absurd to suppose, as Mr. Dutt seems to take for granted, that if the very moderate assessments which prevail in British India, far lower on the whole than those ruling in the Native States were reduced, the people would be able to save up sufficient to tide over a famine year or a series of famine years. The assertion that the poverty and the indebtedness of the people are due to the pressure of the assessment, is not based upon fact. Mr. Dutt may be right in the contention that the poverty and distress of the agricultural class in India is not due to overincrease in population, though when every decade adds 10,000,000 to the number of mouths to be fed there is something to be said for that generally-accepted belief. Mr. Baines, who presided over the last Indian Census, may or may not be correct in stating that the growth of population in this country is not so fast as in Germany or in England. But then the industrial resources of those European countries have grown out of all proportion to those of India. The commerce of England enables her to import and pay for three-fourths of the cereals required for the food of her population. Germany has to import corn from Russia, which is paid for by the products of her factories. Nevertheless, were there to be a total failure of the harvest in Great Britain or Germany, or, what would come to the same thing, if there were a sudden cessation of the foreign demand for the manufactures of Great Britain or Germany, there would be widespread distress. The failure of the cotton supply during the American Civil War reduced Lancashire to virtual famine which had to be relieved by public subscriptions. Mr. Dutt complains that the village industries of India have been killed by free competition with the steam and machinery of England. He might, we are sorry to say, have included the steam and machinery of Bombay in this sweeping indictment. Spinning and weaving were the village industries of the north of England, and they were killed by the free competition of the factories in the neighbouring towns. Bombay no longer enjoys a monopoly in India of even cotton manufacture. Mills are springing up throughout the mofussil, which buy the cultivator's cotton, when he has it to sell, and provide remunerative employment for the villagers. To suggest that the consequences of famine caused by the failure of the rains over large areas, would be eliminated if the land assessments were made "in a liberal and even a generous spirit" is to trifle with the intelligence of the Congress and the public. We doubt very much whether Lord Curzon and his colleagues will be won over by Mr. Dutt's naive appeal to his own convictions :—"My conviction is, and I lay it loyally before the Government, that these frequent and acute famines are mainly owing to the cause that 'our village industries are gone, and our village lands are over-assessed.' My conviction is, and I lay it loyally before the Government, that this enormous loss of lives is preventible, and could be avoided through more considerate land settlements, assuring to the cultivator in every province an adequate proportion of the food that he produces."

It is greatly to be feared that the Government may not be more convinced by Miss Garland's eloquent plea for the reduction of the European military force in India. That gifted lady, the first of her sex to become a member of the Congress, was commissioned by the British Indian Committee to convey to the assembly at Lucknow the good wishes of English sympathisers. She was enthusiastically received when moving a Resolution that the time had come when the Indian tax-payer should be granted some relief from the costly burden of such a large force of European soldiers, and that in the opinion of the Congress the cost of 20,000 men should be transferred from the Indian to the British Exchequer. The Resolution generously waived any objection to the location of British troops in India as a reserve force for the whole of the British Empire. Miss Garland made an effective point in maintaining that if India can afford to lend 10,000 men for service in South Africa, in a time of strain like the present, she could certainly dispense with their services when peace prevailed throughout the Empire. We cannot say as much for the plausible contention that the proportion of British to Native troops fixed after the Mutiny, can no longer be necessary after forty years of peace. Seeing that the Native Army is composed of soldiers of, on an average, eight or ten years' service, while the average service of the British troops in India is little more than two years, the present proportion, if disturbed at all, would require an increase of the British force. Moreover, since the proportion was originally fixed one of the greatest military Empires has advanced her frontiers nearly 2,000 miles nearer to India. Within the last year, she has increased the number of troops in the province nearest to India to four Army Corps. That is not a reason for diminishing the British contingent in India by 10,000 men, either for service in South Africa, or to meet the views of Miss Garland and her colleagues of the Congress. That lady proposed, at the instance of the British Committee, that at the next General Election, which will take place in a year or eighteen months, fifteen natives of India shall endeavour to secure the suffrages of fifteen British constituencies. The Congress acclaimed this promising proposal with patriotic enthusiasm and subscribed three thousand rupees on the spot towards the electoral expenses of the fifteen Indian candidates. They could do no less, for Mr. Surendranath Bose, having congratulated his countrymen on not having to shed their blood for their liberties, told them that if they did not spend their money to obtain them they deserved to be the Helots they are. It is evident that Mr. Surendranath has been studying Sir Alfred Milner's famous Despatch describing the Uitlanders pining for a vote, as Helots.

THE news from South Africa is neither of a startling or interesting character. The most important tidings is the announcement that the Boer force whom General French's brigade had driven out of their positions at Colesburg on Monday re-occupied their ground under cover of the night. Some artillery firing ensued, and here again the uselessness of the enemy's shells was demonstrated. They failed to explode, and of course were practically ineffective. It is reported that heavy fighting has been in progress. The statement made by Reuter that the Boer force confronting General French numbers 5,000 to 7,000, and that on re-occupation they were strongly reinforced, if true, reveals the widespread character of the prevailing sedition. It is impossible for so large a force to collect without coming from a large area, and its strength is surprising. The enemy opposing General Gatacre is numerically placed at 3,000 to 4,000, and it was generally thought General French was operating against an enemy less powerful than his colleague. Whatever the Boer strength is at Colesburg it is satisfactory to note that our men are maintaining their newly won positions, and it is hoped their leader will be able to inflict disaster upon the foe. The victory gained at Sunnyside shows that although the Boers are inactive at Modder River they have not forgotten General Methuen's communications, which, if there is any truth in the rumours about disloyalty in Victoria West, they are far from being safe south of DeAar Junction. Our Colonial soldiers in the fights at Colesburg and Sunnyside have proved their mettle, and considering their life at home, the presumption is they are perfectly familiar with a country of the same nature in which they are now operating. It is said that the Boers are about to evacuate their fortified and entrenched positions north of the Tugela, and are going to take up others to the west. There does not seem to be any reason to put credence in such an idea, for the Boers can realise the strength of their position, fronted by a flooded river, as well as any living soldiers. Later information that the enemy is mounting guns at Springfield, which is to the south-west of Colenso, even contradicts the rumour, and rather shows that the Boers are taking measures to prevent an attack on their flank. Typhoid fever is, unfortunately, assuming an endemic form at Ladysmith, there being 71 cases in hospital on New Year's Day. Reinforcements of two battalions, a battery of artillery, and an ammunition column have arrived at Durban, but there is no inkling of a further attack being projected. The War Office has decided to employ twelve militia battalions outside Great Britain, seven of them being ordered to embark for South Africa. It is stated by one of the London daily papers that a vote of five millions sterling for the provision of new guns is to be asked of Parliament, and this lends some truth to the statement that the war has proved that our guns are inferior to those worked by the enemy.

THE new century has opened sadly in Calcutta with the death of Sir Charles Paul, Advocate General and one of the oldest and most respected residents of the place. Sir Charles was perfectly well on the evening of 31st December. A few days previously he had been in charge of an important case in the courts, and had conducted it with his accustomed energy and eloquence. As the people came home from the New Year's parade, however, the news was passed from mouth to mouth that he was dead. It seems he had ordered his carriage overnight for early in the morning to go to the parade, but had been taken ill in the night, and succumbed to heart failure before dawn, despite all that medical science could do, Drs. Charles and Murray both having been in attendance on him during the small hours. Sir Charles Paul is one of the most notable instances of a man whose high position has been due solely to his own abilities. Educated in the Doveton School, Calcutta, he went in later years to the bar at home and returned to Calcutta to practice. Here he gradually built up a large and lucrative business and was eventually appointed Advocate-General, a post which, curiously enough, he ceased to hold up to the hour of his fatal seizure, for although he practically resigned when he went home last hot weather, his successor, Mr. Woodroffe, was only officiating up to the last day of the year, Sir Charles up to midnight being the nominal holder of the post. Sir Charles was well over sixty when he died, and his clear head and kindly heart have made him a host of warm friends during the long lifetime he has spent at the Calcutta bar. Much sympathy is felt for Lady Paul in her bereavement.

THE Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Low, Commanding the Forces, Bombay Command, will proceed to Poona from the Victoria Terminus Station at 2 p.m. (local time) on Sunday, the 14th instant, returning to Bombay on Wednesday, the 17th idem, at 7 p.m. (local time). The departure and the return of the Lieutenant-General Commanding will be private. Two salutes of 15 guns each will be fired from the Saluting Battery at 7 a.m. on Monday, the 15th, and Thursday, the 18th idems, to announce the departure and return of the Lieutenant-General Commanding.

THE boars hunted at Alligaum have all taken refuge in the sugarcane fields at Vithulwari and Dongergaum. The country is flat and good for hunting, there being no *babul* jungle. The following bit of information will doubtless tempt the Poona Hunt to venture out. There are about 300 boars at Mann, Kashershai and Nanda Chanda; they all come out for water and grass, which are deficient on the hills. The hunt in this direction would prove grand and most exciting.

THE recent conference in Calcutta regarding the proposed amalgamation of the Presidency Banks into an Imperial Bank of India held only one meeting, and the conclusions arrived at have not been made public. There is apparently a certain amount of feeling in Calcutta banking circles that a representative of the Exchange Banks might have been asked to attend the conference however informal its character.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. M. CARTHEW-YORSTOUN, the Black Watch, leaves India immediately for South Africa on being posted to the second battalion.

THE non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Cameronions raised Rs. 1,004 quite voluntarily for the wounded and families of the killed of the 2nd Battalion now in South Africa.

ON the night of the 29th December, a down mixed train ran into a goods train standing at Anara Station, Bengal-Nagpore Railway, causing a number of waggons to break away and run towards Adra. Considerable damage was done to the rolling stock. No one was injured in the collision.

A EUROPEAN carriage examiner, named Lightlie, was run over and killed by a train at the O. and R. station at Cawnpore. He was married only the other day, and was the third brother in a family to die a violent death.

THE steamship Uganda, which takes a batch of horses from the Bengal Command, will probably leave Calcutta about the 5th instant. It will carry some ordnance stores and baled hay.

THE visit of the Nizam to Benares is interesting, as it is made in accordance with old usage, a long-standing friendship having existed between the ruling family in Hyderabad and the Maharajas of Benares. His Highness is certain to be entertained in princely fashion during his short visit.

THE net profits of the upper Bank of India for the year ended 31st December, including the balance brought forward, amount to Rs. 1,45,500. The dividend to shareholders at the usual rate of 10 per cent. per annum absorbs Rs. 1,00,000; the Reserve Fund is increased by Rs. 40,000, and the balance is carried forward. The Reserve Fund now stands at Rs. 5,20,000, invested in Government Paper.

THE indigenous plague cases in Mysore Province during the week ending 22nd December decreased from 251 in the previous week to 207.

A NEW village, Barseyon, in Jullundur district, has been attacked with plague. The village is about five miles south-east of the town of Nawashahr, and has a population of 723.

THE Mehtar of Chitral and the Chiefs from the Gilgit District, who are paying a visit to India, in charge of Captain Gurdon, proceed from Calcutta to Gwalior, where they will be the guests of the Maharaja Scindia.

DURING the Christmas shooting of the Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab in the camp near Hardwar, an exciting incident occurred in the beat for tiger. A wounded tiger charged an elephant, on which was Major Manifold, I.M.S., and severely injured that officer in the hand. The tiger was killed, and captain Claton White, I.M.S., attended to the injuries of Dr. Manifold, who is now quite out of danger and progressing favourably.

MAHARAO UMAID SINGH, the Ruling Chief of Kotah, has loyally come forward and presented Government with a most generous gift in the sum of Rs. 5,000 from his private purse as his contribution to the Transvaal War Fund. The generosity of the gift will be more appreciated by those who know what sufferers both the Chief and the Kotah State will be owing to the famine and scarcity prevalent through Rajputana. The Maharao Saheb devotes himself this year entirely to the management and good of his State and people, and will probably not be seen much outside his own State, where he has his hands fully battling with famine and want.

A NUMEROUSLY signed petition from the inhabitants of Pattambakam, near Nellikuppam on the South Indian Railway, has been submitted to Government, praying that a station may be opened on the South Indian Railway between the station of Panrutti and Nellikuppam. The petitioners state they are at present put to great inconvenience by having to cart their merchandise to either Panrutti or Nellikuppam, both of which are four miles distant from their village. There is a large export from these places of rice, raggi, tamarind, cocoanuts, plantain, &c., and petitioners are quite certain that a railway station opened at the place indicated by them will pay its expenses.

IN a village belonging to Belur Taluk, a Brahmin was frightfully mauled on his head and shoulders by a tiger which kept hiding in a bush in his backyard. It appears the unfortunate fellow came to the backyard for answering the calls of nature at 7 o'clock on the fateful morning, when the brute fell upon him. The poor man called for help, and when the neighbours appeared on the dreadful scene the beast left him and leapt on the roof of the adjacent house and springing from roof to roof to the intense dismay of the people, escaped from their sight. It was afterwards seen crouching under the same bush where it first appeared. The villagers were terribly afraid of their dangerous neighbour and left their houses immediately. This alarm reached a neighbouring village from which a number of men came with fire arms to shoot the tiger. But the ball aimed at the tiger missed him, while he sprang on the crowd and in the ensuing confusion Master Stripes made off to the woods.

THE first meeting of the present session of the Royal Society of Edinburgh was held on Monday, Dec. 12, in the Society's rooms, Royal Institution. Lord Kelvin, the president, occupied the chair, and following the custom at the opening of the session, made a statement, in the course of which the briefly glanced at some of the subjects which had been dealt with in the communications laid before the Society in the preceding session. Proceeding, he took up and discussed two dynamical problems. The first of these had reference to a boy's spinning top with which, he said, he had concerned himself for over seventy years practically and for sixty years mathematically. The question of the boy's spinning top was only a small part of the great subject of the rotation of rigid bodies which had for years occupied the attention of mathematicians of the highest order. While other problems dealing with the large question had been solved by scientists, there had been a remarkable failure in effort so far as the boy's top was concerned and more especially the particular branch of the subject which explained why the top when first thrown on the ground gradually rose from a sloping to an upright position. One mathematician, so far as he knew, only had touched it with any approach to success.

AT Calcutta a young Eurasian named Dupeyron aged about 19 years, was on Friday placed before Mr. T. A. Pearson on a charge of theft. On the 27th ultimo the accused called on a Mr. Dunnett, of No. 30, Creek Row, and asked him for a rupee with which to purchase some food. Mr. Dunnett took the lad in and fed him, and having occasion to go out for a short time left the accused in his house. On returning, he found that the boy had left. Later in the day the complainant missed his watch and chain which he had left on the dressing table. He suspected the accused, and later on caused his arrest. The lad pleaded guilty and asked for forgiveness. His worship passed sentence of two months' rigorous imprisonment. Accused had been previously convicted.

REPORTS of rabies are alarmingly on the increase in Colombo. It is to be hoped that the vigilance and activity of the authorities concerned will increase in the same proportion. Two dogs were reported on December 29 and are under observation. One is of a suspected case reported by the Slave Island police, and the other the animal which bit Sergeant-Major Berry's son. The Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. Chinniah, held a *post mortem* on the carcase of the dog which had bit a police constable at Marandhan. After examination Mr. Chinniah pronounced the dog to have been rabid.

AT Colombo on the arrival of the M. M. steamer Dupleix, from Calcutta on December 20, it was reported to the police that a passenger, a Mr. Forsyth, an Englishman on his way home, had attempted to commit suicide on the high seas by cutting his throat. Inspectors Metcalfe and Toussaint went on board, and the ship's surgeon said that the man was of unsound mind and had attempted the deed when in that state. Forsyth was brought ashore and taken to the Lunatic Asylum.

MR. W. K. MACBRIDE, late of the Banarhat Tea Company, Duars, has joined the Mounted Infantry in Natal, with the rank of Lieutenant.

PLAGUE is steadily increasing in Behar. Though the official returns show only a few deaths, several hundred fatal cases are said to have occurred.

THE survey operations of the Erode-Nungungode and Mutupet Avadayarkoil Railways (both on the metre-gauge system), the former sanctioned in February, 1899, and the latter in June, 1899, have been completed, and the survey parties have been dispensed with.

THE "Figaro" understands that the Emperor William's decision to abolish the post of Military Attache at the German Embassy in Paris was prompted by the desire to prevent any misunderstanding which might prejudice the good relations between France and Germany. The journal adds that the step has been favourably received in military circles, and that the French Government proposes to adopt a similar course in the case of the French Military Attache at Berlin.

THE following dispatch has been received at New York from Rio de Janeiro :—The Minister of Finance has called a meeting of the presidents of the foreign banks, declaring that the Government are resolved to compel foreign banking companies to complete their capital in accordance with existing legal enactments. This places five foreign banks under the necessity of employing several millions of foreign capital here, instead of using native capital.

WRITING on the picturesqueness of Sydney Harbour, a Sydney correspondent says :—It is a sight well worth a sea voyage of several thousand miles to behold, the harbour, with its magnificent lake-like expanse of water, stretching away eight or ten miles inland, forming one of the natural beauties of the world. As the eye wanders along the vista, a succession of picturesque and beautiful landscapes come under review. The irregularity of the shores, the luxuriant verdure with which the hills are clothed; the innumerable villa residences nestling cosily on the slopes of the cliffs, which form the general outline of the bays, surrounded with exquisitely laid out gardens filled with plants and fruits from almost every clime, form a panorama of singular beauty. The waters of the port are of a depth sufficient for the largest ship afloat to manœuvre in; vessels drawing 27ft. can enter the Heads at dead low water with perfect safety; while, as regards its capacity, it is not surpassed by any other haven. It is surrounded by a hundred or more bays, inlets, and creeks, the scenery around each being of a most charming character. Many of these bays form, of themselves, capacious harbours; some of them extending inland for miles. The main waters are dotted over with glittering islets, which add to the exquisite grandeur of this noble estuary, while they form no impediment to navigation.

A STRANGE story comes from Kalutara. It appears that a plumbago pit has been worked for some years on a land belonging to Mr. Jacob de Mel, situated in a village at Pasdum Korale, in the district of Kalutara. On the 20th instant, the Assistant Government Agent, accompanied by two Europeans belonging to a mining company, some headmen and a large force of men, proceeded to the spot and claiming the land as belonging to the Crown ordered the lessee under Mr. de Mel to desist from digging, and on the man refusing to do so, caused the pit to be closed by throwing in planks and other timber and earth and stones and by removing the winch used at the pit's mouth. It is said that at the time there were men working inside the pit. Some of them scrambled up though not without some bodily injuries; but one man named Carolis, is missing and it is believed that he lost his life and that his body is now in the pit.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE FORCES AT COLESBURG.

BOER RE-OCCUPY POSITIONS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 3, 2-30 A.M.

The Central News correspondent at Rensberg, wiring on Tuesday evening, states that the Boers returned and re-occupied their positions at Colesburg during the night. They were strongly reinforced.

The quick-firing guns, which it was believed were disabled yesterday, opened fire and shelled our cavalry. The enemy's fire was ineffective, as the shells failed to explode. Our forces hold the position taken yesterday and desultory firing continues.

THE POSITION AT COLESBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 3, 3-55 P.M.

General French in his official report states that the position is the same as yesterday. He further adds that with a small reinforcement he could dislodge the Boers from Colesburg.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

COLONEL PILCHER'S SUCCESS.

LONDON, JAN. 3.

The Commando which was defeated by Colonel Pilcher consisted chiefly of disloyal colonists.

Colonel Pilcher afterwards occupied Douglas where he received an ovation from the Loyalists.

FIGHTING ROUND COLESBURG.

Unofficial accounts speak of heavy fighting round Colesburg.

Nothing further has been heard from General French's Column.

BOER ARMING AT SPRINGFIELD.

The Natal Carbineers patrolling in the direction of Springfield saw the Boers mounting cannon.

PORTUGAL AND DELAGOA BAY.

The Royal speech at the opening of the Portuguese Cortes was silent regarding the Transvaal War and Delagoa Bay.

LATEST FROM GENERAL FRENCH.

LONDON, JAN 3.

An official despatch states that General French's position is unchanged and that he is still manœuvring. The despatch adds that with small reinforcements he could dislodge the enemy at Colesburg.

METHUEN'S CAVALRY BRIGADE.

An official despatch states that Methuen's Cavalry Brigade, under Colonel Babington, is acting in connection with Colonel Pilcher's force at Douglas and watching the Koodoos drift.

EMPLOYMENT OF MILITIA BATTALIONS OUTSIDE GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, JAN. 3.

It is officially announced that the Government has decided to employ outside Great Britain twelve Militia Battalions.

Seven of these Battalions will go to South Africa—viz. :—The 4th Lancashires; the 6th Warwickshires; the 3rd South Lancashires; the 4th Derbyshires; the 9th Rifle Corps; the 3rd Durhams; and the 4th Argylls.

Two Battalions will be sent to Malta and two to the Channel Islands.

The destination of the twelfth battalion has not been decided.

GERMANY PROTESTS AGAINST THE SEIZURE OF BUNDESRATH.

It is stated that the German Government has sent a Note to Great Britain protesting against the seizure of the steamer Bundesrath.

OVER FIVE MILLIONS FOR NEW GUNS.

The *Daily Mail* understands that the Defence Committee of the British Cabinet has decided to ask Parliament for a vote of over five millions sterling to provide new guns.

THE FIGHT AT COLESBURG.

LONDON, JAN. 2.

Reuter wires from Cradock that no official news has yet been received regarding the occupation of Colesburg.

COLONEL PILCHER'S VICTORY.

Colonel Pilcher's force, which defeated the enemy near Belmont, was largely composed of Canadians and Australians.

They made a forced march of 22 miles and confined the natives to prevent them communicating with the enemy who were surprised at dawn.

COLONEL HOWARD VINCENT DISQUALIFIED.

Colonel Sir Howard Vincent who was desirous of going to South Africa in command of the Imperial London Volunteers, has been disqualified medically for service.

ARRIVALS AT DURBAN.

The second battalion of the Middlesex, the first battalion of the Yorks and Lancasters, the second battery of field artillery, and an ammunition column have arrived at Durban.

A MISSING OFFICER.

It is officially stated that Lieut. Mill, of the Dragoons, is missing since the skirmish at Arundel.

ENTERIC AT LADYSMITH.

General White, on the 1st instant, reports the death of Lieutenant Price Dent, of the Devons, and says there have been thirteen deaths from enteric fever at Ladysmith and there are 71 serious cases.

BOER SPIES IN ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JAN. 3.

The "Indian Daily News'" cablegram, dated London, 2nd instant, states that a number of Boer spies were detected at home attempting to join the Imperial Yeomanry, and special precautions are being taken accordingly.

The "Standard's" Frere correspondent states that 620 rounds of ammunition were lost with the guns at Tugela.

Mr. Winston Churchill states that the white flag at Nicholson's Nek was raised by a wounded Captain of the Gloucesters.

INDIAN OFFICERS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

Lieutenants Milner and Daniell, 2nd Royal Irish Regiment, are transferred to 1st Battalion and ordered to South Africa.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brunker is transferred on promotion from J Battery, Horse Artillery, Bangalore, to Field Artillery, India.

Captain Parker, R.A., is appointed Instructor of Gunnery at Aden.

The names of Captain MacAndrew, 5th Bengal Cavalry; Majors Kerrick and Vans-Agnew, 3rd Madras, Lancers; Captains Binsteed and Arnold, 1st Madras Lancers; and Lieutenant Orr, 2nd Lancers Hyderabad Contingent, are added to the list of officers detailed for duty with mounted infantry horses, under despatch to South Africa.

Captains Bailey, Gough and Wigram and Lieutenant Taylor are the officers who are selected to convey the Imperial Service troops horses to South Africa.

PROHIBITION OF TRADE WITH TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE FREE STATES.

A Foreign Department notification issued here today forbids all trade direct or indirect with Transvaal and Orange Free State, the prohibition applying both to British subjects and to foreigners in British Territory.

BOER TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

ALLAHABAD, JAN. 3.

The "Pioneer's" correspondent wires, London, 3rd instant:—

The following telegrams appear in the "Times":—Lorenzo Marques, 1st January—Northern Natal residents who have arrived from Pretoria prison bring reports of their scandalous treatment like common convicts. While the military prisoners belonging to the regulars are treated with every consideration, the South African Irregulars are lodged in the ordinary gaol and kept on criminal diet.

Jan. 2—Major Daly and 41 men of the R.A.M.C., who were left at Dundee at the time of the evacuation are on their way from Pretoria to Delagoa.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

INDIA COUNCIL BILLS.

LONDON, JAN. 3.

The India Council will accept no tenders for telegraphic transfers at less than 1s. 4 5-32d.

The amount to be tendered for the 10th instant is sixty lakhs.

FRANCE AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Newfoundlanders have agreed to a renewal of the *modus vivendi* with France for another year.

THE MISHMI EXPEDITION.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JAN. 3.

Colonel Molesworth, with 550 rifles, is now entering the centre of the Mishmi country and shortly arrives at Limli, a strong Mishmi village, where resistance is anticipated.

MEMBER TO THE VICEROY'S COUNCIL.

Mr. Allan Arthur has been recommended by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for re-election to the Viceroy's Council.

LADY SANDHURST.

Lady Sandhurst and party left Calcutta to-night for Bombay.

THE MISSES LEITER.

The Misses Leiter leave to-morrow for Madras *en route* for Egypt.

FIELD-DAY AT POONA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, JAN. 3.

The troops of the Poona and Kirkee garrisons held a highly successful field-day under General Burnett to-day. The rendezvous extended from the Poona polo ground back to the brushwood surrounding the approach to the Rest Camp at Kirkee. The troops ranged further down. The Infantry Division was under the command of Colonel Hoskyns. The troops commenced to move off at 8 a. m. The Shropshires took the lead, and filing through the trees, crossed the bridge and proceeded towards the Gibbet Hill; the troops moving as if they were in the enemy's country, the scouts and signallers dodging about the enemy who was supposed to have taken his position on the spur of the hill to the west of Gibbet Hill. Colonel Hoskyns, after making a careful reconnaissance, decided to attack in front with the first brigade. One of the main objects of the movements seemed to teach the troops the necessity of scouting, and looking about in all directions the troops advanced in front to attack the guarding flanks. When all the dispositions seemed to have been properly made at 7-45, General Burnett despatched his Aide-de-Camp in the direction of the Cavalry Brigade which was practising on its own account near the Sisters Hills, some six miles beyond Yerrowda. This was the first intimation the cavalry had, and their instructions were to come up carefully, and they moved under the same conditions, being afraid of getting led into trap; but the rapidity with which they were able to come up and fall upon the enemy showed the great advantage of the cavalry and the possible rapidity of their movements as they came at trot the whole way. When the Right Brigade was extending for attack they suddenly found themselves ridden over by two regiments of cavalry, namely, the 1st and 4th. The surprise was so complete that in an action undoubtedly the Right Brigade would have been quite useless to its commander for the rest of the day. However in order that the infantry might be practised in the attack an order was then issued that the brigade was out of action for an hour when the attack by the Left Brigade was pressed home according to orders, that is, at all costs, this was the general idea, and was supplemented by a sketch from the cavalry. The patrol ground around Poona is very favourable for manœuvres. The rapid advance of the cavalry was probably facilitated somewhat by the cavalry afficers who supplied the deficiency of war balloons by getting a good view of the enemy. The troops appeared to be in an excellent condition and returned home in the afternoon.

EIGHT MEN KILLED IN AN AVALANCHE.

CALCUTTA, JAN 2.

News received from Srinagar states that a fatal accident occurred yesterday on the telegraph route to Gilgit. The line was broken and a party set out from Minimarg to restore communication. It was in charge of Signaller Scott and consisted of Lineman Rustam Khan, eight khalasis, and Mr. Scott's servant. Without any warning the whole party were overwhelmed by an avalanche. Two dak runners, with two postal coolies. who were 100 yards behind the party, were able to rescue Rustam Khan and two khalasis, but Mr. Scott and the rest of the men perished. Efforts are being made to recover their bodies.—*Pioneer*.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 3rd January, 1900.

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates.			Time occupied in transmission.	
	D.	H.	M.	Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	2	10	7 a.m.	12	24
Teheran	3	2	0 p.m.	1	...
Suez	3	2	40 p.m.	...	24

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 3rd January, 1900.

	Maximum Time.		Minimum Time.	
	H.	M.	H.	M.
From Calcutta	1	49	...	4
" Karachi	...	25	...	4
" Madras	...	30	...	2

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

DR. N. N. KATRAK, presided at the weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation, held yesterday afternoon, in the Municipal Council Hall. There were also present Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Mr. Hartley Kennedy, Professor O. V. Muller, Drs. Ismail Jan Mahomed, A. G. Viegas. Messrs. Mulji B. Barbhaya, Mir Aun Ali, K. N. Wadia, Mr. W. L. Harvey, Municipal Commissioner, and Mr. M. N. Wadia, Municipal Secretary.

SIR BHALCHANDRA KRISHNA.

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting the chairman said: Gentlemen, Before we take up the agenda, I will offer in the name of the committee our heartfelt congratulations to our esteemed colleague Sir Bhalchandra Krishna for the high title of knighthood being bestowed upon him by our beloved Sovereign, the Queen-Empress. I need hardly say that the honour is as unique as it is high. But though it is a high honour, our esteemed colleague had thoroughly deserved it by the valuable services which he has rendered to the public, the Municipality, and to the State. It was generally felt that his services could not long remain unnoticed, and we are rejoiced to find that our gracious Sovereign has been pleased to show her appreciation of them by bestowing upon him the exalted honour. I think gentlemen, you will all agree with me, when I say that not only the Standing Committee of the Corporation, but the whole city will feel gratified at the honour done to him. This is the first public function since his elevation to knighthood, and I consider myself fortunate that it falls to my lot to name him for the first time by his new title. Permit me, Sir Balchandra, to tell you that this committee tender to you their heartfelt congratulation for the high honour bestowed upon you, and it is our prayer that you may live long to enjoy it and to repay the confidence reposed in you by your Sovereign, and strive harder and harder in the interest both of the public and the State. (Applause).

Sir Bhalchandra Krishna in reply said: Mr. chairman, I take this first opportunity of expressing my deep sense of thankfulness to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, H. E. the Viceroy, and H.E. Lord Sandhurst, for the eminent and unique honour of Knight Bachelor conferred upon me. I feel deeply obliged to you, Mr. chairman, and all my colleagues on this board, for the very handsome manner in which you have expressed your sentiments of congratulation on my elevation to the distinguished order of Knight Bachelor. You were kind enough to say that the honour, though unique and rare, was well deserved. I entirely agree with you as to the honour being of a unique and rare character, but allow me, Sir, to say that I cannot feel so sure of its being well deserved. I am deeply conscious of my shortcomings and the inadequacy of the services which I have had occasion to render to the public. I sincerely wish that the honour had fallen on a gentleman of eminence and wealth. All the same, as her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress has been pleased to confer the honour on me, I accept it with a due sense of humility, and I confess I already see the very great weight and responsibility which it carries with. I consider that in confering the high title on an humble citizen like myself, the Government have honoured the native community in general and the Hindus in particular, and also on the noble profession to which I have the honour to belong.

I beg to assure you that I will endeavour to continue in my honest and humble way and do my level best, as you rightly remarked, to serve this great and beloved city, my community, this presidency, and my country. My only prayer is that with the grace of God I may be allowed to be still more useful to the public and to the Government.

After transacting other business the committee adjourned.

DEPARTURE OF INDIAN TROOPS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

THE steamer Dwarka (Captain J. W. Livingstone), which is placed at the disposal of Government by the British India Company, will sail to-day, for Cape Town, with 11 Officers, 12 European followers, 12 native followers, 24 chargers, and one Warrant Officer. The following are the names of the officers:—Major-General C. Tucker, Major-General H. A. Macdonald, Major-General Nicholson, Colonel N. Chamberlain, Staff; Colonel Belfield, West Riding Regiment; Major F. D. Lumley, Middlesex Regiment; Major Williams, Staff Corps; Major W. Ross, Staff-Corps; Lieutenant Collin, R.A.; Major Legge, 20th Hussars; Captain Seagram, R. A., and Sub-Conductor, Ashworth.

Thirty horses selected from each of the undermentioned regiments for South Africa are as follows:—

Bengal Command—1st Bengal Lancers, at Lucknow; 3rd Bengal Cavalry, Meerut; 4th Bengal Cavalry, Saugor, 5th Bengal Cavalry, Cawnpore; 6th Bengal Cavalry, Nowgong; 7th Bengal Cavalry, Fyzabad; 8th Bengal Cavalry, Bareilly; 14th Bengal Lancers, Allahabad; 1st Central India Horse, Goona; 2nd Central India Horse, Angar.

Punjab Command—2nd Bengal Lancers, Jullunder; 9th Bengal Lancers, Mooltan; 11th Bengal Lancers, Jhellum; 13th Bengal Lancers, Rawulpindi; 15th Bengal Lancers, Ferozepore; 16th Bengal Cavalry, Umballa; 17th Bengal Cavalry, Meean Meer.

Bombay Command—1st Bombay Lancers, Poona; 2nd Bombay Lancers, Deesa; 3rd Bombay Cavalry, Neemuch; 4th Bombay Cavalry, Sirur.

Madras Command—1st Madras Lancers, Bellary, 300 horses; and 3rd Madras Lancers, 240 horses.

Hyderabad Contingent, Thirty horses from each of the following Regiment:—1st Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, Mominabad; 2nd Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, Bolaram; 3rd Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, Aurangabad; 4th Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, Hingoli.

The Transport Urlana will sail from the Jetty Shed, Prince's Dock, on the 8th instant, with the following troops for South Africa:—"A" Battery, R. H. A., will be railed from Deolali in two special trains arriving at the Jetty Shed at 5 and 6-30 a.m. (local time) on the 8th instant—70 horses from 2nd Central India Horse, 3rd and 4th Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, which will be railed from Deolali in a special train arriving at the Jetty Shed at 7-50 a.m (local time) on the same date.

The Transport Muttra will sail from Bombay on the 8th instant, with the following horses for South Africa:—3rd Madras Lancers—244 Horses. 2nd Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent—30 Horses. These horses will be brought to Bombay in two special trains, leaving Poona at 8-45 and 10-15 p.m., on the 7th instant, arriving at the Jetty Shed Prince's Dock, at 5-55 and 7-20 a.m. (local time), the following morning.

The Transport No. 38 Pekin, with horses for South Africa, will sail from Jetty Shed, Prince's Dock, on the 9th instant as under:—1st Madras Lancers—284 horses will be brought to Bombay from Poona in two special trains leaving Ghorpari Troop siding at 8-45 and 10-15 p.m. on the 8th instant, arriving at Bombay Prince's Dock at 5-55 and 7-20 a.m. (local time), the following morning.

The Transport Ujina will sail from the Jetty Shed, Prince's Dock, on the 11th January, with the following troops for South Africa:—"J" Battery, R.H.A., will be railed from Poona in two special trains arriving at the Jetty Shed at 5 and 5-55 a.m. (local time) on the 11th instant. Horses from 1st and 4th Bombay Lancers and 1st Lancers, Hyderabad Contingent, will be railed from Poona in special train arriving at the Jetty Shed at 7-20 a.m. (local time), on the same day.

MAHOMEDAN EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

FOURTH DAY.

THE Mahomedan Educational Conference resumed its fourth sitting at Calcutta on Saturday. At eleven o'clock. Sir John Woodburn, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, arrived. His Honour was received by the President, the Hon. Mr. Justice Ameer Ali, Mr. Shujaat Ali, Secretary, and the principal members of the committee and conducted to his seat. Among those present were Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk, the Hon. Mr. Evans, Mr. Kennedy, Commissioner of Burdwan, Mr. Duke, District Magistrate of Howrah, Mr. Justice Guru Das Banerjee, the Hon. Nawab Syed Ameer Hussein, the Hon. Khan Bahadur Delawar Hossein, the Maharaja of Cossimbazar, Nawab Mahomed Hayat Khan, Khan, Bahdoor Barkat Ali Khan, Abdul Hussan Khan and Mr. A. M. Bose. More than a word of praise is due to Mr. Shujaat Ali, secretary of the central committee, who worked hard and successfully in putting up the pavilion and making arrangement for the accommodation of the delegates. Nawabzada Nasrullakhan, barrister-at-law, opened the proceedings by delivering an instructive speech in English on the benefits of education and social reform.

BLOCKS of ice began to come down the Seine on Dec. 14 night. A telegram from Avignon states that the Rhone is frozen over, while at Macon the Saone is also frozen, and people are skating upon it. The harbour at Nantes is full of floating ice, which has come down the river. A telegram from Bordighera says there has been a fall of snow all along the Italian Riviera, and at some places it is six inches deep. Such a spell of cold has not been known on the Riviera for many years past.

CRICKET AT BELGAUM.

THE Belgaum cricketers owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Beaman, the District Judge, for having arranged two cricket fixtures during the Christmas Vacation. Belgaum has a good contingent of European sportsmen, and the Hon'ble Mr. Desai wished to put in a strong team against them; but only three veterans from Bombay and one from Nagar were available, and his team had to be made up from local talent. The first match began on the 27th December on the European Gymkhana ground. Mr. Oliver won the toss and elected to bat. The innings closed before tiffin for 137. Col. Stevens, Mr. Hedlam and Mr. Copleston played in good form. Balu was responsible for six wickets at a cost of 13 runs each. Mr. Desai's team began disastrously, three wickets falling for 14 runs, and the hopes of the side were correspondingly low. Bhandare and Saraf rose to the occasion and the fourth wicket fell for 49. Balu joined Saraf and immediately began his free game. Saraf was caught when he had made 32 and Balu who was playing splendidly was partnered by Petkar, a promising colt. When play ceased for the day Balu had 90 runs to his credit. The next morning he just reached his century, being caught by Twiss. The end soon came and the innings closed for 233. In their second innings the Europeans did not fare better. They scored 124, to which Messrs. Hadlam, Oliver and Tawney contributed 20 32 and 30 by good play. The Hindus had thus 29 runs to make to win, which they obtained for the loss of one wicket. The honours of the match rested entirely with Balu, who in addition to his century, took 13 wickets at the cost of 10·5 runs a piece.

The return match with a team which Mr. Beaman himself captained began on the 29th December. The game was played on the same ground. The Hindus won the toss and put their opponents in, a mistake which cost them dear. The first partnership of Messrs. Wood and Hedlam was not dissolved till the century had been passed, both batsmen playing freely. The second pair, that of Messrs. Oliver and Twiss was also productive of half a century, obtained by free hitting but the Hindus were treated to a finer piece of leather hunting by Corporal Stoneman, who had earned a pair of spectacles in the previous match. He hit out merrily and scored 90 runs within an hour. The Hindu fielding was much disorganized and catches were missed, especially off Balu which must have been very disheartening. The innings closed for 330.

The Hindu batsmen began well with Chonkar and Saraf but Stoneman scattered Saraf's stumps with a good length ball. It was afterwards a procession to and from the wickets and five being down for 30 runs when time was called. The next day the batsmen payed badly and the innings closed for 51. Stoneman took 8 wickets very cheaply. In the follow-on the Hindus made a better show and made 179 runs at the cost of four wickets, when play was stopped, fifteen minutes earlier as the ground was required for polo. Chonkar played steadily for his 72 and Bhandare played freely for his 76. The match thus ended in a draw, though much in favour of Mr. Beaman's team. It was a very enjoyable game, and the cricketers of Belgaum never spent four merrier days. The two teams were photographed together. Appended are the scores:—

FIRST MATCH.

MR. BEAMAN'S XI.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Col Stevens, b Balu	34	b Balu	2
Mr Wood, b Chonkar	5	c Saraf, b Balu	0
Corpl Stoneman, c Bhandare, b Chonkar	0	c Bhandare, b Chonkar	5
Mr Hedlam l-b-w, b Bhandare	30	c Bhandare, b Chonkar	20
Mr Twiss, b Balu	4	b Balu	12
Mr Copleston, b Balu	38	b Balu	5
Mr Oliver, c and b Balu	3	c Bhandare, b Chonkar	32
Mr Burd, b Balu	3	c Saraf, b Balu	3
Capt Swaby, not out	7	b Balu	4
Capt Moorassey, b Chonkar	0	b Balu	0
Mr Tawney, b Balu	0	not out	30
Extras	13	Extras	11
Total	137	Total	124

MR. DESAI'S XI.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr Terigundi, b Stoneman	5		
Mr Bhate, b Stoneman	4		
Mr Bhandare, b Copleston	21	not out	7
Mr Chonkar, c Stoneman, b Burd	1	not out	16
Mr Saraf, c Twiss, b Stoneman	32	c Tawney, b Burd	1
Mr Balu, c Twiss, b Stoneman	100		
Mr Gunjikar, b Twiss	9		
Mr Petkar, b Burd	20		
Mr Michigan, b Stoneman	0		
Mr Thanedar, not out	12		
Mr Pandit l-b-w b Burd	0		
Extras	29	Extras	6
Total	233	Total	30

RETURN MATCH.

MR. BEAMAN'S XI.

1st Innings.

Mr Wood, c Pandit, b Balu	59
Mr Hedlam, c and b Chonkar	52
Mr Cook, c Gunjikar, b Balu	6
Mr Oliver, c and b Balu	27
Mr Twiss, b Bhandare	35
Mr Tawney, run out	2
Corpl Stoneman, c Terigundi, b Balu	90
Mr Cobb, c Bhandare, b Balu	39
Mr Boyd, b Balu	2
Mr Burd, not out	3
Mr Beaman, c Pandit, b Chonkar	0
Extras	15
Total	330

MR. DESAI'S XI.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr Chonkar, b Stoneman	11	c Cook, b Stoneman	72
Mr Pandit, l-b-w b Burd	1	b Stoneman	0
Mr Bhandare, b Stoneman	6	b Stoneman	76
Mr Bhate, not out	4	b Oliver	0
Mr Balu, b Stoneman	2	not out	15
Mr Saraf, b Stoneman	9	To bat.	
Mr Petkar, b Stoneman	0		
Mr Taanedar, b Stoneman	3		
Mr Gunjikar, b Stoneman	0		
Mr Terigundi, b Burd	6		
Mr Tipshetti, absent	0		
Extras	9	Extras	16
Total	51	Total	179

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	6	3	10
B Mandvi, Chuckla, Oomerkhadi and Dongri	9	5	27
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Kumbarwada	19	6	43
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Mahaluxmi	8	2	12
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	23	6	84
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	3	2	11
G Mahim and Worli	2	1	15
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	26	46
Total	70	51	248
Total plague deaths to date	62,033	54,150	
Same date last year	27	18	138

DAMAUN.

OWING to the appearance of dead rats, a few days ago, at the residence of the Health Officer, Dr. Menezes, in the Fort, in Upper Damaun, he removed himself to Mr. Ribeiro's bungalow outside the Fort. Four days ago dead rats were found in the new residence and three of his Christian servants, two adults and a boy, were attacked with symptoms of plague and were removed on Monday to Marwad hospital, where the cook, one of the two adults, died in the evening.

The Banias of Vania Vad, in Lower Damaun, have put up mandwas in Chokdi and are removing there in consequence of the appearance of dead rats in their street.

THERE has been great excitement in the Artillery Lines at Bangalore here since new year's eve when a telegram was received from Army Headquarters ordering J. Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery to get ready at once to proceed to South Africa. Officers and men alike are jubilant at the prospect of sharing in the campaign now in progress. Early on Sunday morning the Battery paraded for medical inspection and only five or six men were pronounced by the Doctor unfit for active service, and these were very disappointed at not being passed. Some Bangalore boys have enlisted in this fine Battery. After the medical examination, the Battery proceeded to take over the new 15-pounder guns of the 40th Field Battery in exchange for the converted 12-pounders which they now have. The guns of the 40th Field Battery are of the newest pattern and it is believed are more effective than the converted 12-pounders, the latter of which will not take the new ammunition. No horses over 12 years of age will be taken, and L. Battery, R. H. A., at Secunderabad, has been asked to provide a number of horses to make up the full complement and also to furnish the required field equipment. 194 horses and 176 men represent the strength of the Battery, the officers being Lieutenant-Colonel Brunker, Captain Hector Corbyn, and Lieutenants Monkhouse, Hine-Haycock and Broughton. The Battery left Bangalore for Bombay this week.

DARING PIRATICAL OUTRAGE.

THE SEIZURE OF A HONGKONG STEAM-LAUNCH.

DEPREDATIONS ON THE CANTON RIVER.

THE steam launch Fei On, which was reported as missing on Dec. 13, has returned to Hongkong, the crew having had a most exciting experience after leaving the village of Tung Cheung, on Lantau Island. The prediction regarding the seizure of the launch by pirates has turned out correct, and the capture of the vessel and subsequent conduct of the pirates show a condition of lawlessness with which the Chinese Government is absolutely powerless to check. The British gunboats on the West River have evidently done effective service on the upper navigable reaches of this important waterway, but recent reports indicate an increase of lawlessness in the lower waters of the West and Pearl Rivers. Why do not the British boats have *carte blanche?* It would appear that the ruffians who carried out the latest piratical outrages have so little regard for the authority of the Chinese officials that they have actually established their head-quarters in close vicinity of the Bogue Forts, Bocca Tigris. The pirates carried out their depredations upon several vessels in the waterway in a most unconcerned manner, and landed their spoils at their headquarters without molestation—which suggests an ugly inference of official complicity.

When the steam-launch Fei On arrived at Tai O the crew had a most extraordinary story to tell of their adventures. The Fei On left Hongkong at four o'clock in the afternoon of the 11th December, and calling in at Tung Cheung three passengers were landed. Darkness had fallen when the launch resumed her voyage to Tai O, and shortly after leaving Tung Cheung a long, low boat, containing twelve men, shot out from the shadow of the Island of Lantau and made for the launch. Four men who had come on board the launch at Hongkong as passengers, covered the coxswain and deck hands with revolvers and ordered the launch to be stopped. The launch was slowed down, and the occupants of the row-boat boarded and took possession of the vessel. The coxswain, deck hands and ten passengers, were ordered down the forward hatchway, which was closed. One of the pirates took charge of the wheels and the engine-room staff were forced to remain at work and obey the commands of their captors. The crew were unable from the position below to see what occurred during the night, but it appears that the launch proceeded up the river, and about ten o'clock loud shouts were heard from those on deck ordering some vessel to heave to. Shortly afterwards there was a bumping of the launch against some other vessel, and some shouting and scuffling, and then sounds of articles being dragged into the launch. The launch then proceeded ahead, and all was quiet until three o'clock, when the shouting was renewed, and there were indications that the launch had gone alongside another launch and had transferred from her a portion of the cargo. The pirates renewed the voyage up river, and between four and six o'clock two small trading vessels were pirated. During the day the launch dodged about among the islands, steaming slowly, and when night fell, a course was set for Bocca Tigris. The anchor was dropped, and boats were heard coming alongside, and the sound of the transference of goods from the launch to the boats continued for some time. The boats having pulled away there was stillness for a time, and the crew came up from below and found that the pirates had left the launch. The anchor was hoisted immediately, and the voyage down river was commenced, Tai O being reached in the morning. A sum of 47 dollars was stolen from the launch.—*China Mail.*

NATIVE INDIAN TROOPS AND THE WAR.

THE following letter appears in "The Times":—

Sir,—May I venture to trespass on your space with a few words as to the proposed employment of native Indian troops in the present Transvaal war?

I returned from the Cape a few weeks since, and in the months immediately preceding the outbreak of hostilities frequently heard this question of native Indian regiments discussed by strangers in the country.

I can affirm without hesitation that any such idea was looked upon with unqualified disapproval by the residents and competent English authorities.

Your distinguished correspondents, Mrs. Steel and Sir W. Rattigan, have perhaps not fully realized the multifarious problems presented by the colour question in South Africa. Most people lose sight of the fact in the conflict between the Dutch and English races at the Cape that the real difficulty which Africa will be called upon to face lies not in the future relations between Boer and Briton, but in those between black and white.

This question cannot be judged by the standards of our Indian Administration. The conditions, racial, political, historical, are wholly different. The Bantu races already outnumber the whites south of the Zambesi in a proportion estimated by Mr. Bryce at ten to one, but which I was told at the great native institution at Lovedale is more like 30 to 1. It must be remembered that, though Natal practically excludes the native from a participation in politics the franchise qualification in Cape Colony is identical for black and white. The natives may be roughly divided into a small but ever-growing minority of educated Kaffirs, with strong ideas as to their political future, and an overwhelming majority still living in a savage state.

Race feeling in South Africa as regards the blacks is extraordinarily bitter. Argument as to this deeply-rooted instinct is hopeless; the facts must be taken as they are. Broadly speaking, Dutch and English are at one as to the undesirability of the colour factor growing in strength and acquiring ideas of self-importance. The great link between Dutch and English is the feeling that they are a white brotherhood in a black continent, and in that sentiment lies the hope of a future reconciliation between them. It was most strongly felt in South Africa that this was to be a white man's war, and that one each side native assistance was to be rigorously excluded as unworthy of either party.

Under the peculiar circumstances of local prejudice and feeling at the Cape, it would have excited strong opposition among the English themselves had coloured troops been sent to fight the Dutch. Our authorities have had—as we know—great difficulty in holding back the Basutos from taking up arms against the Free State. They have been told not to interfere in a white man's quarrel. What, therefore, would have been the effect on this warlike tribe, and also the Zulus, to say nothing of the Fingoes and Pondos, if at a critical moment they had seen the forces of the Great White Queen supplemented by native regiments from India? Apart from its inconsistency, such an act would have been looked upon by the native mind, so ignorant and so easily swayed, as a hopeless avowal of weakness and numerical inferiority. The educated Kaffir with his ideal of Africa for the Africans would not have failed to preach this moral to his savage brother. "If there are not enough English soldiers to fight a relative handful of Dutch, what would be the position of this so-called ruling race if brought face to face with a strong coloured population estimated at eight millions?"

The loyalty and splendid fighting qualities of our Sikhs and Gurkhas are as fully appreciated in South Africa as in any part of the Empire. No slur is cast on their prowess or devotion by their exclusion from the present war. That exclusion is a matter of local policy. South Africa is at present in a state when only a spark is necessary to inflame every tribe south of the Zambesi. Had we sent coloured troops to the country at the present critical juncture a blow would have been dealt at our prestige among the natives, whose evil effects it is impossible to calculate.—Your obedient servant,

VIOLET R. MARKHAM

Tampton-house, Chesterfield, Dec. 3.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

JANUARY 3.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, perfect.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, Interrupted South of Mozambique. Via Cadis Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.

Restrictions:—

Telegrams for Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) are subject to same restrictions as Philippine Islands, but are subject to censure of United States Government.

Censure imposed at Manila (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.

Post Master General, London, announces that British Government have decided to suspend at Aden and at the Cape of Good Hope the transmission of all telegrams in Code or Cipher whether of foreign governments or private persons to and from Zanzibar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar and every place in German East Africa, Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, Rhodesia, British Central Africa, Orange Free State, Transvaal, Cape Colony and Natal. Telegrams in plain language are subject to censorship and can only be accepted, at the risk of the sender.

Censorship has been established at Panja and Buenaventura in United States of Columbia.

Telegrams for Bagota, Cucuta, Cartagena, Baranquilla, and Bucaramanga in Columbia (South America) cannot be accepted those for other offices can only be accepted at senders' risk.

Restrictions on private telegraphic correspondence to and from Azores removed, but still apply to telegrams to Madeira.

State of communication:—

Cable Jamaica Colon interrupted.

Cable Cayenne Pinheiros interrupted.

Cable Zanzibar Mombassa interrupted.

Communication between Mozambique and Lorenco Marques interrupted.

Communication between Natal on one side and Orange Free State and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.

Communication between Cape Colony on one side and Orange Free State and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.

THE NE'ER-DO-WEEL.

HE is to be found in every family—some luckless brother, or uncle, or cousin, whose existence, so far as his ingeniously inopportune reappearances will admit, is, in company at least, ignored. He is carefully concealed, kept, skeleton-like, in the cupboard by his relatives, though much discussed and speculated upon by their friends. His photograph is not exhibited upon the chimney-piece, his doings and achievements are not recounted at afternoon teas (how one wishes that people would maintain something of the same reticence about their successful relatives); his name is not perpetuated, with associations of silver mugs and napkin-rings, at christenings; he supports no brothers as "best man"; gets but a grudging invitation, and sometimes not even that, to an occasional back-seat in a mourning coach. Hardened cynics may not consider that this exclusion from family functions is an enormous deprivation; but the ne'er-do-weel himself is usually too simple-minded a being to enjoy the comforts of cynicism. He is at bottom an artless creature, free alike from forbidding vices and forbidding virtues, and ready enough in theory, though not perhaps in practice, to return to the mild delights of family unity.

The ne'er-do-weel is not an out-and-out scamp; if he were, he would probably soon reach the gallows, or acquire an enormous fortune. It requires a good deal of brains to get on by fair means; it requires a good deal more to get on by foul. The person of solid virtues may blunder occasionally; it is perhaps an essential part of his nature, but a blundering rogue is hopeless. To be a Barry Lyndon one must be a genius. The ordinary ne'er-do-weel is quite incapable of the finer art of villainy; he falls between two stools; he is the unhappy mean between the blamelessness of steady-going respectability and the brilliance of utter knavery. It is a common superstition that the ne'er-do weel is, as a rule, a "spoiled child." Now, of all question-begging epithets there is none so utterly shameless as this word "spoiled." We see a child subjected to a certain course of treatment; we imagine this course of treatment to be wrong, and accordingly, without obtaining or waiting for the result, denounce the child as "spoiled," which, in the incisive language of the "great Greek humourist," is absurd. Of course, a "spoiled child" is a very terrible thing, though, even on the face of the expression, it is not the child that is to blame; it is not his fault that his parents or guardians, cruel only to be kind, have not trained him in the paths of virtue by "several slaps," administered in the manner mentioned in "Ingoldsby." Yet we speak glibly of "spoiled children," judging our fellows after the Rhadamanthine manner of "castigat auditque dolos." But it is not the "spoiled children" who recruit the ranks of the ne'er-do-weels. No doubt it is highly becoming, according to the tales whereon the infant mind is, or was, nurtured, that the wicked boy who was given jam with his tea whenever he cried for it should be eaten up by a lion or a bear or otherwise break his indulgent parent's heart. But the ne'er-doweel is, as often as not, the ugly duckling of the family. He has been sneered at; stood in the corner as a matter of course, to expiate the sins of the family; sent to the grammar-school when his brothers went to Eton: "He's such an idle boy, my dear, so unlike darling Augustus." So darling Augustus has sums spent on his education that would put out at three and a half per cent., keep him from starvation for the rest of his life, while poor Scapegrace is turned loose at sixteen, and is told that the world is before him—where it usually stays.

It would be a diverting situation, rather, perhaps, suggestive of a Greek tragedy, for Scapegrace, having come back from the vague regions known as "abroad," in order to exhibit to his family the wealth he had amassed, to discover in the person of a dingy cabman, to whom he is flinging a half-crown, the brilliant Augustus. The idleness, the scrapes, the standings-in-the-corner, would all be forgotten; distance would lend enchantment to the view of Scapegrace's infancy. It would be remembered, how, even in his cradle, he had shown præterinfantine intelligence; how his amiability had been the delight of the nursery; how the memory of his winsome ways had been the consolation of his relatives when Augustus (whose name has been removed from conversation and the family Bible) was discovered to be going rapidly to Mr. Mantalini's "demnition bow-wows." But the world does not run upon these lines, and it is not often that the ne'er-do-weel comes back just in time to restore the family fortunes, which his brilliant brothers have shattered. Come back, indeed, he assuredly will; it is marvellous what a capability he has for coming back. He is dispatched to America; in six weeks he reappears smiling. Or to the Cape; the passage necessitates a longer absence, but he turns up as nearly as possible simultaneously with the letter announcing his safe arrival. Sometimes there is the fatted calf; the prodigal is forgiven everything—even his return; but the delights of his society pall. The killing of fatted calves becomes monotonous on repetition, and is, moreover, fraught with expense; and a still more distant destination is found for him. On the whole, it might be advisable to provide the ne'er-do-weel with a return ticket; if the ne'er-do-weel instinct is really strong in him, it is certain that he would never use it.

Yet one cannot help a tender feeling for the ne'er-do-weel. The stern moralist may assure us we are wrong; we make our bow to the stern moralist and tell him that we know that perfectly well. He may convince us with overwhelming arguments, but volumes of argument cannot dislodge one prejudice. That is why logic is an innocent pastime. We still have a sympathy with Esau, though no doubt we ought to admire Jacob. We have almost an affection for Goldsmith, though he tried three learned professions in succession, and tired of them all. We have no very severe condemnation for him, though, when sent to study the law, he got no further than Dublin, and emptied his purse at a gaming-house. We find Dick Swiveller more entertaining than John Halifax. No doubt, this is all very wrong. No doubt, if Goldsmith had not been something of a ne'er-do-weel, he might have been a Bishop, and written sermons; or a judge, and written a treatise on real property; but as it is, we must be content with "The Deserted Village" and "The Vicar of Wakefield."

It is a hideous thing to value success for its own sake; yet there are some sturdy professors of the creed of material prosperity who are prepared to do it. Success, indeed, may cover a multitude of sins yet it is not in itself a virtue; it must not be confounded with merit. As a counterblast against this tendency, we may allow ourselves to deal gently with the ne'er-do-weel. It is his mission in life to be unsuccessful; convert him to habits of diligence, and his "raison d'etre" is gone. He is to be borne with—in moderation; to be kept from starvation; even, perhaps, in his old age, to be allowed a small annuity but by no means to be ruthlessly reformed.

WITH Anglophobia raging in epidemic form in Germany the incident of the seizure of the Bundesrath is of course unfortunate, but even the most thin-skinned children of the Fatherland cannot possibly find in the affair any shadow of insult to the German flag. The matter is purely one of international law, and as such it ought to be left for decision to the usual court. The mere fact, if it be a fact, of there being no contraband of war on board by no means clears the vessel, as the owners would seem to imagine. International law lays down that "a neutral vessel becomes liable to the penalty appropriate to the carriage of persons in the service of a belligerent either when the latter has so hired it that it has become a transport in his service and that he has entire control over it: or when the persons on board as such in number, importance or distinction, and at the same time the circumstances of their reception are such as to create a reasonable presumption that the owner or his agent intends to aid the belligerent in his war. . . . In the transport of persons in the service of a belligerent the essence of the offence consists in the intent to help him: If therefore this intent can in any way be proved, it is not only immaterial whether the service rendered is important or slight, but it is not even necessary that it shall have an immediate local relation to warlike operations." The question the Prize Court will have to decide is, says the *Pioneer*, whether the presence of three German officers and twenty men on the Bundesrath, all in khaki and equipped for warlike service, is or is not sufficient to imply an intent on the part of the owners or their agents to aid the Boers. But even if the owners maintain that they were carrying these officers and men in the ordinary way of trade, this does not close the British case. Hall says: "The effect of the carriage of persons in the service of a belligerent by a neutral vessel in the ordinary way of trade depends upon the answer which has to be given to the question whether such persons can be assimilated to contraband of war. If they can be so classed as a sort of contraband they may be seized and brought in with the vessel on board of which they are found, and proof that they have been received with knowledge of their character will entail the same consequences to the ship as follow upon ordinary contraband trade. On the other hand, different authorities have taken different views as to whether persons can in any case be classed as contraband of war, and if the answer is in the negative it would follow that if belligerent persons go on board a neutral vessel as simple passengers to the place whither she is in any case bound, the ship remains neutral and covers the persons on board with the protection of her neutral character,

A BOER'S ACCOUNT OF MAJUBA.

WHEN I was out in the Transvaal a year or two ago, I prevailed on Carl Jooste, one of my minning mates, to give his experience of the late Boer war—that is, the 1880-81 trouble. Carl Jooste had been a transport rider between Kimberley, the Free State, and the Transvaal, and was engaged in this service on the outbreak of hostilities. Being a burgher of the Transvaal, he was called upon to place himself in the field to afford gun practice for the invader, or to avail himself of the gun practice the latter afforded, as the case might be . . . . Jooste had his share in the engagements of Laing's Nek and Majuba. His account of the latter was so interesting that I may well be excused telling a well-worn tale. The little army of Boers was encamped about the hill. They were momentarily expecting the arrival of the British in force, eager to avenge the slaughter of their comrades; and they were beginning to think their victories might prove dearly bought. The leaders were gathered together on the kopje to catch the first glimpse of the avengers and take steps for their safety accordingly. The majority of the burghers, too, had taken up positions on the hill, and were examining the horizon for the first signs of the enemy. When Colley and his men came in sight the Boers were in mortal terror. . . . . Nothing was further from their thoughts than occupying the submit as a position of offence or defence, so that when Colley and his men scaled the hill, they met with no opposition. When they reached the top, not a soul was visible of the many who were there but a few hours before. There was no greater mistake made—except that of staying on the top when they got there. Of course, the firing began at once. The British had not the least cover where they stood, yet notwithstanding, they formed in order as commanded, and fired when they were told. The absolute lack of common sense displayed in trying to hold such ground, or effect any blow upon their opponents from such a point, would have been ludicrous if it had not been so serious. The whereabouts of the Boers was only indicated by the little puffs of smoke which continually arose from their places of concealment to the accompaniment of the crack of the rifles. As Jooste remarked, "The engagement was not a battle; it was a pigeon-shooting. The Englishmen simply stood on the hilltop and made cock-shots of themselves for us." I may as well continue here in Jooste's own words, simply smoothing down his rugged English. Here they are :—

"The only order that they appeared to get, was to fire a volley; and they fired the volley—over our heads. They had nothing but puffs of smoke to aim at. All they had to do was to obey the word of command and waste their ammunition; and they wasted it while we cut them off one after the other. When the volleys rang out the bullets whistled past us, and buried themselves harmlessly in the ground. As opportunity offered our men moved cautiously from rock to rock, getting nearer and nearer the rapidly diminishing party to improve the prospect of potting their game. Still, it was wearisome fighting under cover; there was no excitement in it. We had just to watch our chance, and fire when we could—round the corner. The English kept dropping one by one, and we kept creeping closer. If they had run I should not have blamed them—for there is a sight more sense in running away than in standing up to be shot down by a lot of men you cannot see. As for their straight shooting, I had some chance of judging that. We diverted ourselves by putting our hats on the ends of the guns and raising them just above the tops of the rocks which sheltered us. If the soldiers made any mistake, it was in supposing that there was a head inside the hat; for if the hat did not go rolling down the hill it never missed getting two or theree bullets through it. That shooting was quite good enough for me and those that were with me. We took care not to expose ourselves needlessly, or for the fun of the thing. . . .

"As to the action of the English in standing so long on the hill-top without the least protection, it is quite beyond me. Whether it was Providence or imbecility that ordered it is not for me to say; but it must have been one or the other. I am inclined to call it darned tomfoolery myself. At last Colley stuck a white handkerchief on his sword and held it up. Then we scampered up the hill and surrounded what were left of the brave fellows who had stuck so well to their gallant but woefully misguided general. They had laid down their arms. They were beaten again, but no one will get me to say they were disgraced. . . . . In the midst of all the confusion, as Smit was advancing to the English commander to receive his sword, I saw a young Boer raise his rifle and take deliberate aim at Sir George, at a distance of about eight yards. Before the act of submission was completed, Sir George Colley fell dead. . . . . These was nothing whatever in this affair to make the Boers cocky, for they had really little better than a parcel of fools to deal with. If any of them say that the English are not good shots because they did not kill many—well, don't believe them, that's all."—Fisher Van in the *Captain*.

A CYCLING SCANDAL.

WALNE DISQUALIFIED FOR "STIFF" RIDING.

THE Austral meeting.—the most popular and fashionable cycling fixture of the year—seems fated to produce a "spectre." Last year's meeting gave birth to the Scharp imbroglio, which cost the Melbourne Bicycle Club a sum of £300.

The 1899 Austral meeting was inaugurated on the Melbourne cricket ground on Dec. 9, the chief item on the card being the Commonwealth Stake, which claimed to be an innovation in cycling contests. The competitors in this were the 20 best trackmen in the colonies, who were chosen by the handicappers of the League of Victorian Wheelmen. The race was ridden in heats, over four distances of one mile, two miles, three miles and five miles. The contestants who qualified for the five mile race were Martin, Walne, Lewis, Forbes, Jackson, Beauchamp and Walker; and the winner was the American, W. Martin, places being filled by W. C. Jackson and Walne respectively. The stewards, however, had noted several circumstances which they regarded as somewhat peculiar in connection with the riding of Walne. Shortly before the event was to be decided, the callers of odds—who seem to flourish the better for the spasmodic pretences made by the governing body of the sport in Australia towards their suppression—were openly calling "2 to 1 on Walne." A few minutes later, however, the punting pendulum took an extreme swing, and odds of 10 to against Walne were as freely offered by the bookmakers. Several members of the executive committee of the L.V.W., who were on duty as inside track umpires, on account of this betting phenomenon, were particularly watchful during the riding of the race; and as a result of what they and the stewards saw, it was decided that Walne should be cited to appear before the stewards, to explain—if he could—certain alleged eccentricities in his performance as a competitior in the event. Walne accordingly appeared before the stewards, Messrs. J. A. Kelly, G. J. Russell, H. W. Seymour and W. Gleeson, and the referee, Mr. T. K. Gollan, at the league's rooms last evening, when he was charged with having infringed rule 125 of the L. V. W., which reads:—Every competitior must endeavour to win his trial heats as well as any final; otherwise the stewards may disqualify him for stiff riding.

The stewards informed Walne that in their opinion based upon their own observation of his riding, he had ridden "stiff." Mr. J. F. Jenkinson, a member of the executive committee of the league, gave evidence to the effect that he acted as inner umpire during the afternoon of the race. He was stationed at the eastern end of the entrance to the home stretch. Walne paced till the bell. In the last lap witness noticed that, instead of making his "rush" at the spot where in previous events he had done so, Walne made no effort, although he had a clear run. Walne protested that he had ridden to win, but was bored out in the run up the home stretch. He had not made a bet on his chance. He admitted having said he hardly fancied his chance of winning. He made the remark after having heard that Martin was heavily backed to win. Martin's rush had taken him unawares, and he could not recover himself. The stewards, after a brief consideration in private, decided to disqualify Walne for one month, and to recommend to the executive committee of the L. V. W. that he be further disqualified till June, 1900.

"COMMISSIONER" Ridsdel, of the Salvation Army, who has had interviews with Kruger, speaking at Rochdale, said that there ought to be no difficulties between the Dutch and the English in the Transvaal. During his residence in South Africa he had an interview with President Kruger. He found the President a very nice old man to talk to, but he ought to have gone to heaven three years ago; it would have saved him a great deal of trouble and anxiety. He was a man who read his Bible, and knew what he ought to do. The Bible said that people who knew what they ought to do and do not do it shall be beaten with many stripes.

THE Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry, author of the famous hymn, "Shall we gather at the river?" has just died in New Jersey. His account of how the words and music were given to the world is thus related :—"One hot day in the summer of 1864, when an epidemic was sweeping through Brooklyn, Dr. Lowry, then living at that place, was sitting in his study, thinking of his many friends and acquaintances who had recently died, when the question occurred to him, 'Shall we meet again? We are parting at the river of death. Shall we meet at the river of life?' 'Seating myself at the organ,' Dr. Lowry once said, 'simply to give vent to the pent-up emotions of the heart, the words and the music of the hymn began to flow out, as if by inspiration.'"

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

DANCING IN OTHER LANDS.

THE King of Siam enjoys the royal prerogative of keeping bands of dancing-and-singing girls. At five years of age, and sometimes before, the tots are set to work practising in the royal gymnasium, and small wonder is it that their bones seem to be made of gristle and that they are really the most flexible of human creatures. The most astonishing and marvellous thing the dancers do is to pick up bits of straw with their eyelids. Naturally this can be done only by the youngest and most supple. It is one of the exercises in the gymnasium. The cup dance is a most graceful and intricate measure, and to the looker-on it seems almost miraculous. It may be called the national dance. A row of young girls, each with a cup on her head, take their places in the centre of the great hall. To the accompaniment of the band they kneel down, fold their little hands, and bow their small heads until their foreheads almost touch the polished marble floor, keeping the cups steadily on their heads all the time by a series of skilful jerks of the neck. They also make a series of rapid and intricate circles bringing into play almost every muscle of the body, without in the least disturbing the cups.

The principal amusement of the Eskimos of St. Michael is dancing, and they indulge in it upon the slightest provocation. In winter they dance within doors. Their halls are dirty and filthy beyond description. When the weather is warm enough they perform on the green, where they jump and whirl about in the most violent manner for hours together, and stop only from sheer exhaustion. There is no grace of motion or posture. Time is kept by beating upon a drum made by stretching a piece of walrus entrail over a hoop. The dancers throw their arms about in the most grotesque fashion and twist their bodies in a horrible manner. Women sometimes take part in this pastime, but with moderation and in a much less repulsive way than the men.

As a rule the Chinese do not care for so frivolous a recreation or pastime as dancing. They do not dance themselves, but they hire dancing girls who are bred to the profession to amuse and entertain them. Bands of dancing women are maintained at Pekin for the entertainment of the Court on occasions of rejoicing, and the flower boats which line the banks of the rivers near large cities have dancing girls aboard to amuse the visitor. The girls wear most exquisitely embroidered garments, and are as dainty and delicate as flowers, and, in spite of their compressed feet, some of them are exceedingly graceful. An old legend tells us that Fei-Yen, the favourite concubine of the Emperor Chi End, 18 b.c., was so skilled in the art of dancing that she could tread a measure on the palm of his hand or within the circumference of a small bowl. The devil-dancers of China are a sort of spiritual mediums, who claim to be possessed, going into a state of ecstatic frenzy, and when in this state answering questions as to disease and remedies to be applied for the relief of those on whose behalf they are consulted.

Most Corean cities have geishas, who form themselves into a sort of guild, with fixed prices for various entertainments. Like their sisters of Japan, they are the best educated of their sex. . . . . But to see the geisha in all her native loveliness one must go far afield, even in Dia Nippan. One must be present at a *fete* dedicated to the Sacred Dragon, where maidens who perform no other dance interpret song and story, sheltered by lacquered walls upon which are emblazoned paintings of the Seven-clawed Dragon.—*Wide World Magazine.*

THE RETURNED AUSTRALIAN LANCERS.

THE commandant (Major-General French) to-day considered the report of the regimental inquiry into the reasons for the return of 31 of the New South Wales Lancers to the colony instead of landing at South Africa and going to the front with their comrades, and this evening a general order was issued, in which Major-General French states that two members of the squadron were dismissed for misconduct before arrival at Cape Town. Of the 29 remaining, nine were reported medically unfit for active service, eight were minors who were ordered back at the request of their parents, though most of them were anxious to go to the front; five have given satisfactory reasons for having to come back, leaving seven who appear to have been actuated by motives of a private nature mainly. With regard to this Major-General French point out that it formed no part of the engagement made by them when proceeding for training to England to go on active service, and they were guilty of no military offence, and were well within their rights in deciding not to land at Cape Town. While the commandant regrets the decision they made in the matter he is desirous that they should be put to no direct or indirect disadvantage in consequence of their action.

News has been received at Parramatta from several members of the Lancers, now on active service. From their letters it appears that the men were provided with young and unbroken horses, and these were broken in at Stellenbosch, 50 miles from De Aar. The provisions are regared as rather rough. There appears to have been considerable feeling shown against those members of the detachment who made up their minds to return to New South Wales.

The regimental inquiry into the cases of the returned Lancers was held to-day (11th December) at Parramatta, the court comprising Lieut.-Colonel Burns, Major Vernon, and Lieut. Brunton. The proceedings were conducted in private, and as they were of a preliminary character only, Lieut.-Colnel Burns deemed it advisable to withhold information of what transpired. A full report will be forwarded to the commandant.—*Australian Paper.*

FATAL EXPLOSION AT MANDALAY.

A SERIOUS accident occurred on board the I. F. Co's cargo steamer "Pekin" on Thursday evening (Dec. 22). The steamer had left Mandalay that morning, and reaching Myinmu at dusk, went alongside the bank as usual to remain at that station for the night. Shortly after dark one of the crew opened the batch of the after peak which contained oil fuel, and the man either having a lantern in his hand or near by, the gas from the oil caused an explosion. This explosion was unfortunately attended with serious consequences. Two of the native crew were killed and several men, about fifteen in all, we believe, including the third engineer and clerk, were more or less seriously burnt. The sufferers were instantly treated at the Myinmu Hospital, where everything was done for their comfort. Two Burmans have since died; but the rest of the injured are progressing satisfactorily, and several have already left the hospital. The explosion caused the steamer to take fire, but under the prompt direction of the Commander, the fire was confined to a small space at the after part of the vessel and was speedily extinguished without having caused serious damage. Ready and valuable assistance was rendered from the shore by the sub-divisional officer of Myinmu and the Assistant Superintendent of Police of that station. The Deputy Commissoner of Sagaing, too, early rendered aid. The opening of the after hatch after dark is, we understand, distinctly contrray to the Company's regulations which are very strict on this subject, and a full enquiry will be made. The Deputy commissioner has taken the deposition of the injured men and has been put in possession of the whole of the circumstances of the case. The steamer has since resumed her voyage to Rangoon.

THE shipment of 2,000 horses from India for use by the Mounted Infantry in South Africa will take some time to accomplish, as the animals have to be railed to Bombay, and there placed on board the steamers now being chartered. These ships will have to be most carefully fitted up, for otherwise there may be a repetition of the scenes on board the Wardha and the Rapidan. Horses are too valuable to be exposed to risks such as the 9th incurred, and we have none too many remounts in India just now. The hardy countrybreds of the Native Cavalry and Imperial Service Corps will make ideal mounts for the mobile force of infantry that is being formed at the Cape. The horses are not too big; they have been trained to stand fire; and they will be equal to getting over rough ground or scaling steep hill-sides. Where the Boer pony can go the Indian countrybred can follow, and he will not need to be pampered in the matter of food. The sowar's horse has usually to carry 16st. or 17st. in full marching order, and he will not feel the weight of the infantry soldier lightly equipped with rifle and ammunition. We trust there will be no piling up of burdens in the case of these mounted infantry: to be of real service they must be extremely mobile and their kit should be of the simplest. They do not need all the paraphernalia of the cavalry soldier; a blanket and an overcoat should form their kit, with an army ration and spare cartridges stowed away on the saddle. Our men will have much to learn when first acting against the Boers, who are the best mounted infantry in the world; but the British soldier, led by selected officers will soon prove that he can do as well on horseback as on foot. The deplorable weakness in the cavalry strength of the various forces operating in Natal, the northern part of the Cape and on the Kimberley road makes the employment of mounted infantry absolutely necessary. A victory is only half won when a beaten enemy is able to retire quietly without being hotly pursued; and this is just what has happened on at least three occasions in South Africa. As the war progresses we hope to hear of successful actions followed by the infliction of heavy losses upon the Boers as they vacate their entrenchmenes. If they are to be be allowed to fall back upon fresh positions there will be an almost endless series of battles be fore Bloemfontein, much less Pretoria, is eached.

THE GERMAN NAVY.

THE debate recently in the German Reichstag on the naval policy of the Imperial Government is chiefly interesting on account of the speech in justification of the measures proposed which has been delivered by Count von Bulow. The Imperial Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, read an official declaration on which issue was joined, but it was left to Count von Bulow to defend the proposal. We cannot say that much defence was needed. Germany has always had great commercial aptitudes and capacities and since she trampled under foot in 1870 the traditional aspirations of France to European ascendency she has been able to give free course to her reasonable ambitions. The immense increase of German trade has rendered it necessary for the Imperial Government to strengthen the naval forces of the Empire. Yet it was only two years ago that the navy was based upon a six years' programme, and the question thereby removed, as it was supposed, for that period from all further discussion. It is now inevitable, Count von Bulow contends, that this programme shall be modified. The international situation, he argues, has altered. It is always, indeed, in a condition of change, and the statesman who fails to take account of the process of development will find himself pitiably left behind by events. The moral of Count von Bulow's speech may be commended to our own public men. It is right not only to lay down a strong line of policy, but to be ready to modify it in view of changing circumstances. This, we may bear in mind, is the position that Mr. Goschen took up some time ago in dealing with the strength of the British Navy. Whatever our position may be at a given moment, we must be ready to make it still stronger, if other sea Powers build more ships. When Count von Bulow borrows Mr. Goschen's arguments we can find no fault with him. But we must recollect that we have to apply the same process of reasoning to our own case. Germany is, of course, entitled to add to her naval strength as her commercial interests increase, and she would be wanting in her duty if she did not do so. The Foreign Minister disavows—we are sure quite candidly—any aggressive intention in this addition to the navy, and his countrymen will not misunderstand us if we on our side, should think it right to add to our own Fleet in proportion to the augmentation of any other. At the moment, according to Count von Bulow, Germany is on the best terms with all the Great Powers, and, in regard to England especially, by far the greatest of naval States, as he admits, her relations, at least officially, are those of "complete reciprocity and mutual consideration." Yet he contends that his country must be secure against international dangers and must be prepared to pay the price of guarding against them. Where the new questions are likely to arise which will call upon the German navy to intervene we cannot profess to say. It is certainly not in South Africa, to which the Foreign Minister made certain rather obscure and irrelevant allusions. But that Germany should have a fleet strong enough to meet any possible "attacks" on German commerce and German colonial interests, if any such attacks are conceivable, is a proposition that nobody will dispute. To what extent the German people will be ready to follow the Government on a path which must lead to a very large expenditure it is not easy for outsiders to determine. The Colonial party are very active and possibly very strong. But the great bulk of the German people have no direct interest in colonial trade, and a large proportion of them are not too patient under the burden of existing taxation. The remarks of Dr. Lieber, the leader of the Clericals, who form the largest section of the Reichstag, have an ominous ring. We do not suppose, however, that the Government will fail to obtain the sanction of the representatives of the German people for the policy presented in Count von Bulow's speech, even though it will add, according to the Secretary of the Treasury, 9 1-2 millions of marks per annum to the Imperial taxes. "Confiding in the rising star of the German nation," to quote the glowing language of the Minister, "German policy will not let itself be beaten by any one."

In this country there need be no envy when we take account of the development of German Imperialism. Count von Bulow is not very warm in his references to the British Government and its policy, but he is absolutely "correct," and we want nothing more. He has rebuked the German jingoes who think they can rush to the ends of the earth, planting their flag here, there, and everywhere, and getting the simple stay-at-home "Bauer" to pay for the entertainment. "It is easy," Count von Bulow observed, in a satiric vein, "for a man with a cigar in his mouth and the map of the world spread out before him to conquer fresh coaling stations and fresh naval bases," but, in practice, the business is not quite so facile. Germany has done remarkably well in this way since she entered on her career of "Welt Politik" after her hour of triumph in 1870. But, as Count von Bulow has noted, she has still to think even more of her army than of her navy. "The best pledge," he says, "that our transoceanic policy will always be moderate lies in the necessity of keeping our strength in Europe always collected and ready." We do not dispute this, and we should be very sorry to see Germany again reduced to the position she occupied before her unification after the death-struggle with the first Napoleon. Alluding to a wellknown passage in Goethe, Count von Bulow said, "In the coming century Germany will be either the hammer or the anvil." There is a little danger of error or excess in these literary excursions. It is hardly probable that Germany will ever again become the anvil of Europe but it is still less likely that even as a "world-Power," he will be the hammer of the seas.—*Times.*

THE CAMBRIDGE EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

THE *Malay Mail* gives a detailed account of the progress of the Cambridge exploring expedition in the Malay Peninsula, conducted by Mr. Skeat. The four original members of the expedition (Messrs. Evans, Gwynne Vaughan, Annandale, and Skeat,) left England on the 7th Feb. and went out direct to Bangkok. They began work in Singora (Siamese Malaya), and continued research in Patani, after making valuable collections, including rare fossils. After many other discoveries, Mr. Vaughan left the party in the State of Raman, from which the remainder of the staff essayed to climb Gunong Tahan, the loftiest mountain in the Peninsula, said to be ten thousand feet high. Mr. Skeat started from the village of Aring River. The local headman and natives refused to give him any assistance, and denied the existence of the mountain. Mr. Skeat decided to go on by himself and make a personal reconnaissance of the mountain from the Pahang side. He took six Malays with him and travelled with increasing difficulty, finally running short of food and fire.

THE ASCENT OF THE MOUNTAIN.

For five days they had no proper meal, and for the last two before they again reached inhabited country they lived on wild fruits. Their difficulties were great from blinding fogs and incessant and unseasonably heavy rains. Their matches and ammunition were ruined, and this rendered it impossible for them to dry their clothes or get dry firewood. These rains were so heavy that the valley below was three times flooded while they were on the mountain. The floods were attributed by the Malays to the ascent of the range, it being the Malay belief that the mountain contained vast treasures of gold and silver defended by wild beasts of gigantic size, and by magic powers. None of the wild tribes could be obtained to act as guides and the impenetrability of the jungle and precipitous nature of the mountain made it impossible to cross the watershed when the rice gave out. A rough time and compass survey, however, was made and the party succeeded in ascending the Tahan valley and in getting near the summit of the highest mountain visible, which it is believed from the descriptions of the Malays may have been Gunong Tahan. Just at the foot of the highest point, they were beaten by a precipice which appeared to be due to a gigantic "fault" in the range. They unconsciously ascended this range peak by peak, in the hope of reaching its highest point and thence getting a panoramic view of the neighbourhood. Failing, however, after several attempts to scale this last cliff, they returned by the way they had come and reached Aring village again after an absence of five weeks. The attempt to ascend the mountain was given up owing to the heavy rains and the difficulties encountered. Scientific research was then proceeded with in Kelantan and Tringganu. On the north-east monsoon setting in, the party proceeded to Kedah via Singapore. At Singapore the "orang laut" (the old piratical tribe of Singapore island) were visited by Messrs. Yapp and Skeat and on the 16th of November the whole party arrived at Penang.

There Mr. Skeat had to go to hospital from his having been seized with beri-beri at Gunong Tahan. He is now considerably better. In consequence of Mr. Skeat's detention in Penang it was resolved to divide the party, Mr. Evans paying a visit to the Bidan group of islands off Kedah coast and Messrs. Yapp and Laidlaw proceeding to the high range of mountains (about 6000 feet) on the borders of Kedah and Perak. It is expected that the active work of the expedition will be finished in the spring of next year.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE PET OF THE FLAGSHIP.

STORIES OF A TAME BEAR IN THE ROYAL NAVY.

No doubt exists on the question of the important part played by pets in both the navy and army. It seems almost essential that those whose training in the art of war should during times of peace have associated with their daily lives pets of various kinds on which to exert the softer sentiments. The regimental dog is a wonder of sagacity, brought about through his daily intercourse with hundreds of men, until he knows as much about parades and other things connected with *his* regiment as the men themselves.

But I wish to tell particularly of "Bob," the beloved pet for some years of the flagship on the Mediterranean station.

Bob was a bear—a Syrian by birth. He became the ship's property while still a shapeless cub, when the fleet was cruising in the Levant. He soon began to display that gentleness which, though foreign to his nature, is the outcome of association with men; and when he grew to "man's estate" he was the chum of the whole ship's company, from the Admiral to the humblest tar.

He always retained, however, some of his bearish characteristics, one being the utter inability to keep perfectly still, excepting when asleep. Every one who has visited the Zoo or a travelling show knows the restlessness displayed by Bruin; how he keeps moving his dull head along the front of his cage, until one becomes quite irritated by the regular swaying to and fro. He always remained a baby in many respects, and nothing gratified him more than for an obliging tar to put his hand into his mouth, so that "baby Bob" might suck his fingers. Failing a tar, the Admiral would do just as well, as Bob was not particular in that respect. He would become so intent on his childish pastime that for a time he would forget to keep up his oscillating movements.

Living among a ship's crew for so long, it can be understood that he would acquire habits that are not usual with a bear. His greatest delight was to show his humorous appreciation of the regard for his human chums by rolling them along the deck, wrestling with them, or, in fact, doing anything that would tend to enliven the dulness incidental to a seafaring life. Nor was he respecter of persons in this matter, for the gallant Admiral might often have been seen rolled along the deck by Bob's strong paws; and, though not a dignified position for so exalted an officer, it afforded amusement to all who witnessed it.

Sometimes he did things which caused great alarm, though they were not dangerous, but the outcome of a bear's not too keen sense of humour. His tricks and fun were accompanied by a peculiar twitching of the muscles of his shaggy mouth, which gave him the appearance of laughing, and added greatly to the comicality of his doings.

But to name a half of his accomplishments would mean writing a volume. I will therefore give one or two samples of Bob's eccentricity.

When the great ship lay in harbour, a substantial fixture of steps was slung over the side to accommodate those coming to or leaving her. A sentry was always on guard on the deck above this gangway, he having strict orders to see that the ship's pet did not descend the steps—a trick he was very inclined to do.

One day, as the sentry marched up and down at his post, Bob, who had been watching him from some covert position, waited until the guard had his back to the exit; then, quickly and unobserved, he darted from his position and hurried down the steps like a shot jumped into the sea, and swam away, not a soul being aware of it.

What was his object? What his intent? He surely did not wish to commit suicide, for everybody loved him and tended to his wants as though he were a child.

There were in the harbour—it was Malta, if I remember aright—other ships of the squadron, anchored here and there at considerable distances apart. One of these ships was thrown open to visitors, who had taken advantage of the opportunity to see an ironclad, and came in their hundreds—men, women, and children, all in their Sunday best.

Though the flagship was closed to visitors, the gaze of her crew was often in the direction of those who were entertaining the laughing and delighted crowd in the sister ship.

Suddenly the semaphore signal was seen to be working excitedly on the visitors' ship. There was something wrong on board. The flagship signalman interpreted what they were saying, and handed it to an officer. It said—

"Send at once for your bear; he's playing the very devil aboard us."

A boat's crew was immediately dispatched, and on arrival at the terror-stricken ship found everything in a state of great confusion. They were told that in the midst of their enjoyment a cry was raised, women fainted, strong men turned pale, because suddenly, all dripping with wet, a great bear came out of the sea, mounted the ladder up the ship's side, and pounced into the group of light-hearted Maltese, grinning from ear to ear. The frightened people flew in all directions, no place of hiding being closed against them; Bob became master of the situation, and danced in high glee to show his appreciation of the fact.

He was cuffed back to the boat and rowed to his own ship, where a stricter watch was kept over him.

Some time after he again managed to evade his keeper, and swam ashore at a small village off which the ship lay. He kept the entire place in a comical state of siege for an hour or two.

But there came a tragedy in the end, which hung over the ship like a pall for days. The circumstances were these.

Bob had always displayed a degree of whimsicality regarding his bed. His favourite sleeping-place was one of the boats slung in the davits. Late one night, when off the coast of Sicily, the ship stealing solemnly through the pitchy darkness, there came the sound of a splash in the sea, as though something or somebody had fallen overboard. Those on watch did not know what to make of it, as there was no cry heard and no man missing.

Some few minutes elapsed before any thought was given to Bob; then a man who had seen him go to his bed in the boat hurried to ascertain if he was still there. The bed was empty! Intense was the excitement. The man who had seen Bob go to bed told his superior officer; that officer told his superior, and so on, until the Admiral (who was sound asleep in bed) was awakened with the news that "Bob was overboard!"

"Shall we stop the ship?" asked the officer anxiously. The Admiral, who was particularly sleepy, and hardly knew if he dreamed or not, made some irrelevant reply. And Bob was lost for ever.

Everybody knows that "to get out of the wrong side of the bed" means that the individual who has done so is likely to be unfortunate in some way or other. And that's just what poor old Bob had done. Considering, too, that the side he had got out at was into the Mediterranean instead of on to the ship's deck, one cannot wonder at his having to pay so dearly for his mistake.

The next day though the sun shone brilliantly, and the vast inland sea looked its very best, there was a subdued tone about every man from Admiral to boy. Report had it that the Admiral expressed himself as being "very cut up," which was a big thing for so great a man to say. Lurking away behind a gun or some other protection from the general gaze might have been found many bronzed faces with tears stealing down them.

J. Sr G.

THE NEW AFRICAN EXPEDITION.

THE DANGER OF AROUSING MOHAMMEDAN FANATICISM.

IN reference to Reuter's interview with Bishop Tugwell, the leader of an expedition or mission which leaves Liverpool on Saturday for the Central Soudan, the Liverpool Correspondent of the "Daily Chronicle" telegraphs :—

"A visit to Kano is hardly the hazardous undertaking which Bishop Tugwell would have us believe, and the Bishop is, moreover, in error when he asserts that only two Europeans have visited that city. Without consulting references not available at the moment of sending of this dispatch, and which doubtless would yield other names, one may mention Barth, Thompson Monteil, Wallace, and Robinson (and I fancy also Mr. David McIntosh, or his brother Charles, both at one time in the employ of the Royal Niger Company), who have resided in Kano.

Whether it is politically wise at the present juncture, when a Pan-Islamic revival in Africa is being so actively fed, for a Christian proselytising mission to establish itself in the heart of a Mahomedan community in the Western part of Central Soudan seems very doubtful. In that respect Bishop Tugwell is certainly jeopardising not only his own safety and the safety of his companions, but is in danger of arousing Mahomedan fanaticism.

For it must be remembered that our hold over the country, where Bishop Tugwell proposes to operate, is as yet purely nominal, and the native force with the British authorities would have to rely upon in case of trouble are for the most part composed of Mohammedans. Seeing the enormous scope for Christian propaganda in pagan Southern Nigeria and the great good which it is there susceptible of accomplishing by stamping out human sacrifices and sanguinary fetish rites, it is to be regretted, one would think, that the energy of our missionaries cannot be satisfied with these opportunities, but must needs push into the northern Mohammedan zone, where the existing state of society is incomparably superior to that which prevails in any other part of the Soudan, and where the presence of Christian propaganda is certain to cause unrest, and in all probability political complications which might end in war.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

LYNCH LAW BY THE VILLAGERS.

"CAPTAIN THOMAS, of the river steamer Wuchow which arrived at Hongkong from the West River on Dec. 10, reports an exciting experience which he had on his last voyage up the river. It appears from his narrative that a number of the gang of pirates which has been operating with considerable success in the vicinity of Chau Tau Shan for some time, were recently captured by the villagers in the neighbourhood, and they have wreaked their vengeance upon the outlaws in a manner most revolting. The Wuchow left Koongmoon on 7th December, at 6.45 a.m., with a lighter in two, bound for Wuchow. The vessel had been steaming for about half-an hour, when Captain Thomas, who was on the bridge, heard, as he thought, loud discharges of crackers on the river banks. The morning was somewhat misty, and it was difficult to make out objects at a distance. Suddenly, about thirty or forty yards ahead, the Captain observed shots strike the water, and by means of his glass he was able to discern that both banks were lined with men for about a mile and a half. The general appearance of affairs awakened in the mind of the Captain the thought that pirates had arranged an attack upon his steamer, but on closer examination he observed that the shots fired by the people on the banks were directed against a row boat being propelled down stream by a crew of four men, who were sitting down in the bottom of the boat with only their heads and arms showing above the gunwale. The pilot of the Wuchow was the first to realise that these were a crew of pirates endeavouring to escape from the villages who had lined the banks. As soon as Captain Thomas grasped the situation, he anchored the lighter he had in tow, and proceeded at full speed up river to H.M.S. Tweed, which was observed at anchor near Chu Tau Shan. The Wuchow hoisted signals to notify the Tweed of what was occurring, and as soon as she got alongside, Lieut.-Commander Hon. Forbes Sempill came off to the steamer and was notified of the disturbance down the river. The Tweed's steam cutter was manned and taken in tow of the Wuchow down stream as far as Bamboo Island. The Wuchow then picked up her tow and proceeded on the upward voyage.

On the down voyage, it was learned that before the arrival of the Tweed's steam pinnace the villagers had captured the four pirates, and had summarily executed them on the bank. The bodies were lying on the bank just in the wash of the water, and were mutilated in a manner sickening to behold. It appears that the pirates attacked a small passenger boat which had left a place named Pakling on the island of Chu Tau Shan. Contrary to their usual custom, the passengers gave the alarm, and the villagers assembled in large numbers on the banks and followed the pirates' boat downstream for several miles, their numbers increasing as they proceeded. A steam launch with a lighter in tow following in the wake of the Wuchow, dropped her lighter and successfully blocked one of the passages of escape. The pirates were finally captured and dealt with as described. Much credit is due to Captain Thomas (and no doubt Commander Sempill has seen to this in his report of the occurrence) for the prompt manner in which he reported the affair to the Tweed and the assistance subsequently rendered in towing down the pinnace, which had no steam up at the time.—*China Mail.*

THE NEW EGYPTIAN MEDAL.

ON Dec. 15th the Prince of Wales, as the representative of her Majesty, conferred on the senior battalion of the senior regiment of the Brigade of Guards the medal which the Queen has given to her troops for the Soudan campaign.

The medal now so often seen on Tommy Atkins's breast was given by the Khedive, the first clasps added to it being those for "Firket" and "Hafir," and subsequently "Abu Hamid," "Nile 1897," and the Atbara. Then came the crowning triumph of "Khartoum," and quickly following "Gedarif," and presumably another clasp will now be added for Wingate's masterly ending of the whole long campaign. The medal is a trifle larger than the ordinary one, but is strikingly effective, the ribbon being yellow, with a centre stripe of watered blue, the same width as the outside yellow stripes.

The medal which the Prince gave to the Guards is the Queen's medal for the same campaign. It will go to all who have served in the Soudan since Kitchener's first advance in 1896. It carries no clasps with it. Those go on the Khedive's medals, and will in the main be rare on the British soldier's breast. Tommy will, of course, sport "Atbara" and 'Khartoum" bluejackets and marines here and there will be found with "Abu Hamid" and "Nile 1897" but the clasps for "Firket" and "Hafir" will be worn only by the 1st N. Staffordshire, while "Gedarif" will be only found worn by a few English officers, commissioned and noncommissioned.

The ribbon for the medal is her Majesty's own idea. It is half black, symbolical of the Soudanese troops, half yellow, symbolical of the "Gippies," while running down between the intersection is a "thin red line." On one side of the medal there is a bust of her Majesty, "Victoria Regina et Imperatrix." It is a beautiful piece of workmanship. The other side contains a figure of Victory, holding in her right hand a palm and in her left a laurel wreath. Below is a trophy of flags and underneath this the legend "Sudan." The medal is designed by Mr. G. W. De Saulles, engraver to the Royal Mint.

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25	11 8 0	25	15 7 0	25	13 13 0
30	12 12 0	30	18 6 0	30	16 0 0
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25	143 1 0	25	197 8 0	25	198 7 0
30	156 6 0	30	209 8 0	30	232 10 0
35	173 11 0	35	224 10 0	35	[illegible]
40	195 9 0	40	242 15 0	40	[illegible]

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PURELY PERSONAL.

HER MAJESTY has been presented with another treasure, which is an appropriate companion to Gordon's Bible—The Koran of the Mahdi, who did Gordon to death. This was a present from Lord Kitchener when he came on his visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle. The Koran was in a very dilapidated condition when it arrived; the binding was broken, the leaves in disorder and none but an Arabic scholar could be trusted to set it right. But the British Museum is equal to any demands on scholarship. Thither the Mahdi's Koran was sent, and now it has been restored to Her Majesty so beautifully repaired, and with the disordered leaves so completely re-arranged, that Her Majesty is quite delighted, and has sent her special thanks to the authorities of the Museum.

Shortly after the Emperor and Empress of the French had taken up their abode at Chiselhurst in 1872, the Empress Eugenie paid a visit to the Convict Prison at Woking. It was a lovely summer evening (writes a contributor who was present as a boy on the occasion, and who has never forgotten what he saw), and the whole of the convicts were assembled, to the number of 600, in the great exercising-yard. Suddenly appeared a little group of civilians, accompanied by the Governor of the prison and a few warders. A dead stillness fell upon the drab-coloured mass of convicts. A lady stepped forward from the group of visitors. She stood a moment, and then there went up a shout from the men that rent the skies, and that startled the passers-by outside, who, naturally, thought a great mutiny was in progress. The shouts died away upon the summer air, and, as stillness reigned again, a poor broken down convict stepped from the ranks, and, addressing a few words in purest Parisian to Her Majesty, he knelt upon one knee at her feet and kissed her hand. It was probably a unique experience in the Empress's romantic and tragic career.

The provision of £10 000 made by the Duke of Portland towards Lady Henry Bentinck's Special Ambulance Fund is in keeping with the usual generosity of the Duke. When he came into his kingdom, he settled £100,000 on each of his brothers and his sister, or rather, half-brothers and sister. Moreover, he presented his cousin, Lady Glamis—whose father would have been duke if he had lived—with £10,000 on her marriage. So also the whole of his huge winnings over Ayrshire and Donovan were given to found alms-houses on the Welbeck Estate.

Captain George Nugent, who rode so intrepidly among the bullets at Modder River, as A.D.C. to Sir Henry Colvile, has been for a long time the funny man of the Guards' Brigade, the leading comedian in the Guards' burlesque, and the editor of the "Guards' Magazine." He is an actor of very great versatility and resource and has a marvellous fund of "business" and gag, as well as a very lively power of mimicry. As a writer of humorous lyrics he has frequently combined with his brother, Mr. Claude Nugent, in the production of some highly successful comic songs. He is the great grandson of a Field Marshal, so that he is sustained by combative traditions.

Here is an amusing story, illustrating the ways of the Soudanese soldier, taken from an interesting narrative of the fighting on the Nile since 1896, just published by Chapman and Hall, under the title of The Sudan Campaign. "After the Abu Hamed fight," writes the author, who has modestly withheld his name, Colonel MacDonald had soundly rated the men who began the independent firing, without orders. Well, one night at Berber, Colonel MacDonald, while sleeping, as usual, in the courtyard round his hut, was woke up by a black soldier properly dressed in drill order without arms. When asked what he wanted, he said: 'My battalion is very sorry that you are angry with them for firing without orders at Abu Hamed, but we know best what to do; we have been fighting since we were boys, we know the Dervishes and we know the best way to turn them out of a place, so just you leave things to us, and we'll pull you through!' The black then turned about, and was outside the courtyard before Colonel MacDonald recovered from his surprise and exploded."

This is not a new story, but it has not been published. It is one of those tragic-comic incidents peculiar to stage-land. Miss Jennie Lee was playing "Jo" in Scotland. She was in the midst of the long and harrowing death-scene of poor "Jo." The stage was darkened and thelimelight illumined the pale features of the death-stricken boy. People were sobbing all over the house. Suddenly, to her consternation, Miss Lee heard the limelight man addressing her in a brawny Scotch whisper, audible to half the house. "Dee quick, Miss Lee, dee quick," he roared softly; "the limelight's gin oot!" She did die quick, but it was for the purpose of making a speech to that limelight man which he said he wolud never forget.

One would have thought Mr. Savage Landor had had enough of Thibet to last him a lifetime, and it will surprise everybody to learn that he has just come out of the lion's mouth a second time, though, fortunately, in this instance without the marks of teeth. Mr. Landor returned a few days ago from a second journey to Thibet and Nepaul, upon which he only embarked in July—rather quick work. This hasty revisit to the region of his unenviable experiences naturally suggests punitive purposes, Gatling guns, and dead Lamas; but such was not the object of the expedition. Mr. Landor's purpose was to break the world's mountaineering record, and this he has successfully carried out by a margin of some 500ft. He is already busy writing an exciting book on his experiences, developing hundreds of photographs taken and completing the sketches that are to illustrate it. The volume, when complete, should prove a serious rival of the best mountaineering works yet published and cause much weeping and gnashing of teeth among the climbing fraternity. Mr. Landor has recently been elected a member of the Royal Institution—one of the highest scientific honours.

Mr. Newfeld, the famous prisoner of the Khalifa, has become violently interested in General Booth and the Salvation Army, and is strongly of opinion that the General's method is the only means of conquering the savages of the Soudan—which he probably knows better than any man living. He paid a visit to the Salvation Army Exhibition, interviewed the General on the necessity of taking out a contingent, and ultimately got him to promise to do so. On one occasion, when his lecture agent was in great need of him for business purposes, he could not be found. It afterwards transpired he was spending his day "slumming" with members of the army.

Mr. Herbert E. Terry was educated for the Bar, and was an associate of H. B. Irving, who was destined for the same career. Like "H. B.," as young Irving is generally known, young Terry found his hereditary predisposition too strong to be resisted, and the legal career gave way to the histrionic. With a slim figure, curly chestnut hair, lively blue-grey eyes, and good-looking face, Mr. Herbert Terry is the picture of a lively, likely young Englishman. The actor's profession is so absorbing that it is not uncommon to find actors, and good ones, too, who have no knowledge of, or interest in, anything outside of the theatre. Mr. Herbert Terry, probably owing to his outside training, has the speech and manner of a man of the world rather than those of an actor. Yet he is ambitious in his profession, and proud of it, and jealous of it. Mr. Herbert Terry, of course, began his career in his father's theatre, where he had the advantage of undertaking a miscellaneous line of parts. When he had learned what he could from his father, he threw himself upon the world to sink or swim. He did not sink, but he is getting on swimmingly.

Master Harry Rignold looks about fourteen, says he is older, and is as amusing as if he had been extracted from one of Rudyard Kipling's stories. He has a shrewd, round, humorous face, and a very funny way with him. He comes of a large family, who have all been for generations on the stage. Henry Rignold, whose production of Henry V. made a sensation in America about twenty years ago, is his father's cousin. Lionel Rignold is his uncle. It may be said that no provincial company is complete without a Rignold, and all of these are his uncles, or "his sisters and his cousins, he reels them off by dozens, and his aunts." There is only one, a brother, who is not on the stage, but that is because he is an invalid.

As to his beginnings, Master Harry Rignold relates that his first engagement was as a negro minstrel, at a salary of four shillings a week. Master Harry Rignold had been engaged by Mr. Wise, who produced the piece, for the part of "Front," the cheeky little boy in buttons in *The Wrong Mr. Wright.* As Master Rignold had been doing good work at the Savoy Theatre much was expected of him. To everyone's surprise he was very bad at rehearsals, stiff and self-conscious, delivering his lines without point. Day after day he was drilled, but did no better. Finally, Mr. Wise addressed him with a "Come now, Master Rignold, this nonsense must end. You can certainly do better if you care to try." To which the little chap replied in a resigned and serious way: "No, Mr. Wise, I cannot help it. No Rignold has ever been able to rehearse!" It is only fair to add that when Master Rignold came to play before an audience he gave an excellent performance.

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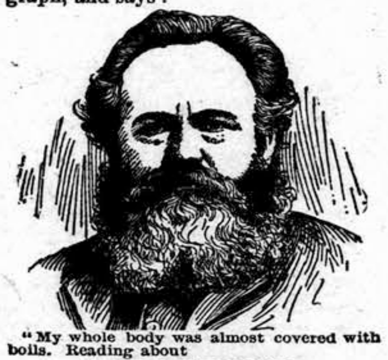

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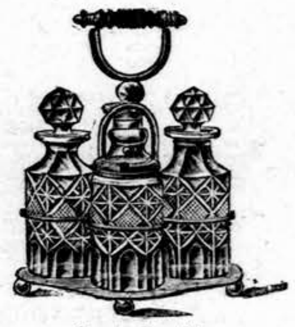

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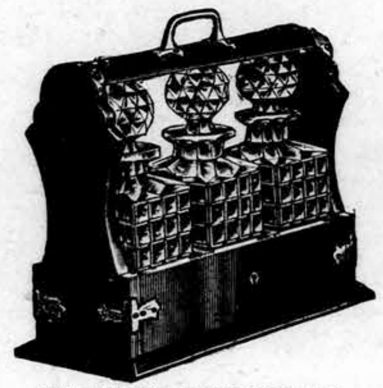

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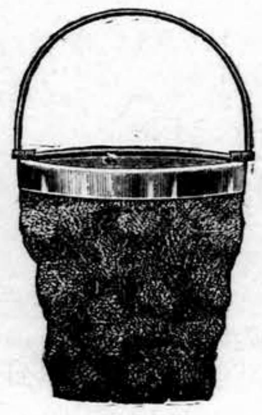

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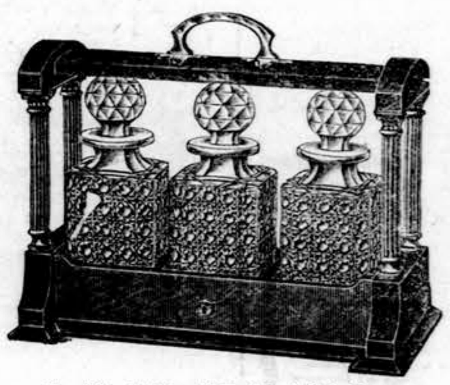

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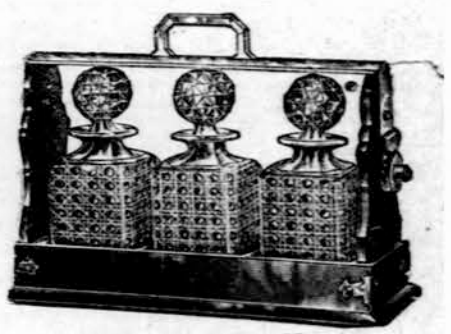

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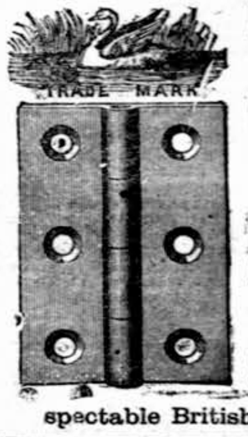

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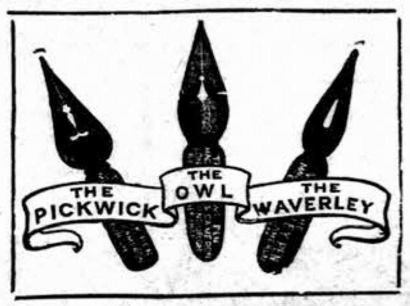

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